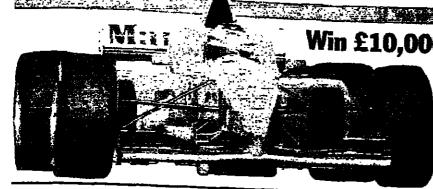
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No. 65,523

SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996



Win £10,000 playing F1 **Fantasy Drive** 

CAR 96, PAGE 5

Win a Renault Clio Details and token 1, WEEKEND, P8



Simon Jenkins on the Government's gambling fever PAGE 20



Corner turned at last, say analysts

# Mortgage cut boost for house sales

By Marianne Curphey, Rachel Kelly and Nicholas Wood

THE mortgage price war in-tensified yesterday after the Chancellor announced his third base rate cut in four

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High Street lenders led by the Halifax, the biggest buildsociety, immediately shaved a quarter of a percentage point off their home loan rates to about 7.25 per cent. But the Bradford & Bingley promised to undercut the Halifax and reduced one of its variable rates to 6 per cent.

Two weeks ago, the Nationwide jumped the gun with a cut to 6.99 per cent to prove to customers the benefits of sticking with an old-fashioned building society as rivals rushed to merge or become banks. That cut takes effect next month and the society yesterday that it was considering whether a further

reduction was in order. The latest move, combined with other mortgage incentives and next month's tax cuts, is expected to leave the average family about £450 a year better off, and analysts predicted that it could prove the turning point for the housing market. Ciaran Barr. UK economist with Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, thought that house sales might rise by 10 per cent to 1.29 million this year - half the 1988 figure and that prices would go up by 25 per cent. All the factors are right for improvement." Already glimmers of recov-

ery have been detected and the

HALIFAX MORTGAGE RATE

Halifax has reported slight increases in prices for seven consecutive months. Last month they were up by 0.9 per cent and the society expects prices overall to rise by 2 per cent this year.

Estate agents and builders cautiously welcomed yesterday's news. Hugh Dunsmore-Hardy, chief executive of the National Association of Estate Agents, said the mortgage rate reduction was another prop to support the housing market recovery, but Roger Humber of the Housebuilders' Federation said there was still scope for deeper cuts.

Kenneth Clarke also hinted at further cuts as he expressed confidence that consumers would soon begin to enjoy "the fruits of Tory economic management". He said: "I think 1996 is going to be a very good year for the British economy, getting stronger as it goes on." Conservative MPs desperate for a "feelgood factor" before the general election welcomed the Chancellor's recognition that rates could be cut again - they believe that the base rate must fall to 5.5 per cent by the autumn if the

Government is to have any chance of reelection - but Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, saw the cut as a sign of weakness rather than strength in the economy Malcolm Bruce of the Liberal Democrats said the cut would help industry, but he believed rates would have to rise again as the "inevitable" pre-election boom fuelled inflation.

Financial markets barely reacted when the cut was announced because it had been widely anticipated, but the FT-SE 100 Index later fell by nearly 50 points after heavy falls in America where hopes of lower rates were dashed by figures showing that the economy was growing much more strongly than expected.

lan Amstad, economist at Bankers Trust, said: Clarke got his rate cut in with just a few hours to spare. It could have caused a bloodbath if it had happened after the US data. The US and UK economies are closely synchronised adn this is an indication that UK growth may already be poised to strengthen without the help of cheaper money."

Best deals, page 2 Leading article, page 21 Wall St slump, page 25 Weekend Money, page 29



Tourists duck as pigeons that have survived the peacher cause a flutter swooping down on nuts and berries in Trafalgar Square yesterday

# Pigeon fancier finds oven-ready market

A DEARTH of woodpigeons before Christmas is likely to have triggered the theft of feral birds from Trafalgar Square. Police hunting a man who is believed to have trapped and carried away 4,000 of the square's birds were told yesterday the urban poacher may

have found a ready market. Last year's hot summer and mild autumn produced a bumper crop of nuts and bernies, which kept flocks of wild pigeons in the woods and safely under cover until well after the pheasant shooting season had begun.

"You simply could not get woodpigeon," said Chris Driver, pigeon purchaser for Cutty Catering Specialists in south-east London, a firm which supplies London restau-

plenty from country estates, but before Christmas supplies simply vanished. Birds are still very difficult to get. That is why the pigeon thief is likely to have

spotted a gap in the market."
Roger Hicks, a game dealer in the Cotswolds, agreed. He said: "The pigeons are still on the nuts and berries now. When they do not move out on to the crops in the fields they do not get

shot. Supplies are very short."

Feral pigeons from Traialgar
Square, once plucked, would be smaller and thinner but otherwise difficult to distinguish from woodpigeon. They would also taste similar, although because they are not regularly culled their average age is likely to be higher, and the meat tougher. Opinion yesterday was unanimous that nobody

from Trafalgar Square, but experts were doubtful that even a trained palate would be able to tell the difference. Michel Roux junior, Michelin-starred chef at Le Gavroche in Mayfair, said: "I suppose if it was minced and seasoned it would be possible to mask any bad flavours, but would expect the birds to be terribly

tough and ropey." Supermarkets sell thousands of woodpigeon. At Sainsbury's the price is £2.45 for oven-ready birds. A spokeswoman said: "Trafalgar Square birds would never pass our quality

The birds used for roasting or grilling in top London restaurants are squab, or baby pigeons, usually no more than four weeks old and fed on

nothing but "pigeon's milk", predigest-ed food regurgitated by the mother. Squab are costly, most coming from France particularly the Bresse region.

Michel Roux has squab on the menu at Le Gavroche, with fresh truffle, cream and foie gnts. at £38.60. At the Savoy Grill, stuffed with truffles and served with shiitake mushrooms and celeriac, French pigeon is £19.25. Greek restaurants last night denied that they might be purchasers for feral birds. Pigeons are certainly a delicacy in Greece", said Alex, manager of Kalamaras, a taverna in west London. "but we do not have to pay anyone to catch them. If we wanted we could catch them ourselves."

> Perch in history, page 5 Leading article, page 21

### Old enemies meet on the Bangalore pitch

By Christopher Thomas in Delhi AND TUNKU VARADARAJAN

and Pakistanis — a fifth of the world population - will turn their attention today on the city of Bangalore where the two countries will meet in the World Cup cricket competi-tion. It will be their first match

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk

ALMOST one billion Indians on Indian territory since 1987. Decades of enmity from three wars on the sub-continent will be channeled into this contest. Hindu extremists have told Pakistanis not to set foot on Indian soil and have vowed to disrupt the game.

Thousands of troops and police have been deployed in the southern city and supporters of both countries have been banned from flying national flags. The Pakistani players are being guarded as

The extremist Shiv Sena has demanded "tears in the eyes of every Indian Muslim" should India lose.

World Čup. pages 46. 48

## Blair delays introduction of power to raise 'tartan tax'

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR will block a new Scottish Parliament from raising taxes during it's first term as part of a startling policy shift designed to reassure voters north of the border.

The move comes amid inreasing unease among the Labour leadership over the apparent success of the Tory Tartan Tax campaign mount-ed by Michael Forsyth against Labour's tax plans for a devolved Scottish parliament

Under the existing proposals a Scottish parliament has if each were a president. been promised powers to raise or lower the basic rate of tax by 3p. But, in a clear sign that Tony Blair has been rattled by the Tory campaign, the Labour leadership will shortly Leading article, page 21 make clear that the Scottish

Labour Party will go into the next election with a manifesto pledge not to raise taxes for its first four-year term. This will mean that the new parliament will be prevented from using its tax powers until at least

2002, assuming Labour has a majority. Yesterday Mr Blair made little reference to the Scottish Parliament when he addressed the Scottish Labour Party conference in Edinburgh. In a robust defence of New Labour, he warned his Shadow Cabinet colleagues that he would not sanction any spending commitments. In a clear signal that a Labour Government will be tough on public spending, he revealed

Cabinet to draw up a blue-, print for a Labour manifesto where any new programmer were funded by better use of existing resources.

Mr Blair also gave a strong defence of Gordon Brown's policy to withdraw benefits from the Under-25's who fail to take up offers of a job or training. In a reference to several critical motions tabled against Mr Brown's propos-als, Mr Blair said: "When I hear people in our party refer to our plans to get the young unemployed into work as an attack on the young' I rage at their stupidity just as I rage at the waste of young lives spent on the dole." The proposals would get people back to work.

### Palestinian fund accounts frozen

The Charity Commissioners have frozen the bank accounts of a Palestinian fund-raising organisation after allegations of possible links to Harnas militants .

Bankers for the Palestinians Relief and Development Fund, also known as Interpal, have been told not to release any money. The spokesman said the action was protective and temporary ...... Page 13

### **Turkish Cypriot**

airliner hijacked A Turkish Cypriot Boeing 727 with at least 100 passengers on board was hijacked on its way from Nicosia to Istanbul and was reported to be heading for Sofia.

An airline official said the passengers included Russians, Iranians, Bulgarians and Turks.

### Beer on the house in heavy-drinker survey

By Russell Jenkins

ACADEMICS at Birmingham University are to carry out a long-term study into the benefits as well as the harmful effects of heavy drinking with the help of a £433,278 grant from the Government.

Researchers are recruiting 500 hardened drinkers through the Campaign for Real Ale to take part in the tenyear project funded by the Department of Health. Male guinea-pigs will have

to drink at least 50 units a week, the equivalent of 25 pints, and females 20 units. equal to 35 glasses of wine. The Government's recommended limit is 30 units for men and 20 for women. Volunteers will receive £20

every time they are interviewed and will be regularly

questioned to make sure they

are drinking enough. Professor Jim Orford, director of the project, said the main objective was to look at the different ways alcohol affects people. "I would be surprised if there weren't a lot of things said about the benefits," Professor Orford said. "We want to get away from the doom and gloom idea that is in the usual health approach." Warren Hawksley, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge. said: "It sounds to me like

these academics are spending money for the sake of it.' A Department of Health spokesman said: This study is looking at a whole range of people and whether or not they are in contact with medical services over ten years."



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that he had told his Shadow

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# MEIBAIMIES **12 PAGES OF TIMES SPORT** WIZARD IN OZ? Oliver Holt on Damon Hill Australian Grand Prix THE GREATEST? Pick Britain's 20th century sports stars and win tickets to Euro 96 PLUS: Leeds v Liverpool: **Rob Hughes** reports from **Elland Road** THE TIMES **CLASSICAL** COLLECTION On Monday, how to get the first

# Cost of mortgages cheapest since 1960s

By CAROLINE MERRELL

THE cut in mortgage rates by most main lenders will make buying a house the cheapest it has been since the 1960s. As well as being able to benefit from variable rates at a record low, new borrowers have an array of discounts, fixed rates and cashback schemes to above from

choose from.

Many societies are also offering to refund legal expenses and surveyors' costs. The cheapest variable rate will continue to be offered by the direct arm of Bradford & Bingley Building Society, which is planning to cut its rate from 6.25 to 65 corrects.

rate from 6.25 to 6 per cent. Other offers include a oneyear 0.5 per cent fix from the Hinckley & Rugby Building Society. The monthly repayments on a £50,000 mortgage under the scheme would be about £18 a month. However, at the end of the one-year offer period, borrowers will have have to move to the society's variable rate, currently 7.49 per cent, or take out another offer. Other cheap mortgages include a 3.75 per cent fixed rate from the Skipton and a 5.99 per cent fixed rate from the Yorkshire. Again, at the end of the fixed-rate offer. borrowers could face a big increase in mortgage

other societies are offering competitive "capped-rate" loans. The rates on these loans will not rise above the cap but can fall if base rates fall. Among the more competitive is one from Barclays, which will cap the interest rate at 3.65 per cent for one year.

Other societies are taking the sting out of moving house by offering cash incentives for those wishing to borrow. Anyone taking out a mortgage with Northern Rock can benefit from a cashback scheme of up to £9,000. Other societies making cash handouts to borrowers include the Bradford & Bingley, the Cheshire and the National & Provincial. These will now borrowers between

£6,500 and £10,000. The size of the cashback depends on the amount borrowed. The downside of many of these special deals is that they carry high redemption penalties.

Borrowers could be tied with the lender for many years after the special offer has ended. The redemption penalties could be as much as six months' interest.

There was another unexpected fillip on the back of the interest rate cut. Credit card companies also started announcing lower rates. For example, the RBS Advanta Visa card, which is designed to move its rates in tandem with base-rate movements, will have an annual percentage rate (APR) of 15.6 per cent from April 1, down from 15.9 per cent. Barclaycard plans to cut its APR to 22.3 per cent from 22.6 per cent.

Mortgage war, page 1 Leading article, page 21 Weekend Money, page 29

BES	DEALS /	VAILABLE
D RATES_		
	% RATE	EARLY REDEMPT

LENDER	% RATE	EARLY REDEMPTION PENAL
Hindley & Rugby to Feb 97	0.50	Difference between fixed and standard variable rate must be repaid
Skipton to May 98	3.75	5% of original loan it redeems
Yorkshire three years	5.99	6% of original loan in first year declining gradually thereafter.
Coventry		••
March, 2001	6.79	None
Bristol & West	6.99	6 months of mortgage paymen
March. 2001		it redeemed before 28/02/2002

LENUER	76 DAIL	# DECCO
Scarborough	7,49	6.1% for 12 months = 1.39%
John Charcol Election Beater	7.24	3% for 12 months = 4.24% and 3% cashback
Halitax	7.24	3.5% to 30/04/98 = 3.74%
Northern Rock	7.24	2.75% to 1/05/99 = 4.49%
National Counties	7.49	1.5% for 5 years = 5.99%
CAPPED RATES		
LENDER	% RATE	EARLY REDEMPTION PENALT
Berclays Bank .	3.75	3.5% of total loan if redeemed before 30/04/2000
The Mortgage Business	5.95	6 months interest if redeemed in first 5 years

Rales may change as base rate cuts take effect

# wanted to get married was withdrawn from yesterday on grounds of sex discrimination against men. Women who joined the Forces were previously able to give six months notice to end their careers if they wanted to marry. The Ministry of Defence

NEWS IN BRIEF

Marriage

perk ended

for women

in Forces

An exclusive privilege for

women in the Services which

allowed them to leave if they

became aware of the anomaly when a male squadron leader applied to leave the RAF to get married. Sqn Ldr George Findlay won £6.500 in an out-of-court settlement after the MoD denied him the same

### Prince for Hong Kong handover

The Prince of Wales is expected to represent Britain in Hong Kong next June at ceremonies to mark its handover to China. Although a senior minister will also be present, the Prime Minister is understood to believe that a senior member of the Royal Family rather than himself should head the British team.

# Adopted children offered lifeline

Thousands of Irish people sent to America for adoption hecause of the shame of being born out of wedlock are to be given government help to trace their natural mothers. Over 1,000 files discovered at Dublin's National Archive show that 110 children a year were sent to America between 1948 and 1962.

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Head

# Most teenagers victims of crime

Most teenagers have been victims of crime, according to a survey published by the children's charity Barnardo's. An overwhelming 82 per cent had been victims and most alter their way of life to avoid it. Theft and vandalism were the commonest crimes they encountered.

# Mad March hare a dying breed

A major survey of Britain's brown hare population by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee has found that numbers have slumped from around four million at the turn of the century to an estimated 820,000. The decline is blamed on changes in agricultural practices.

# AC Cars calls in the receivers

AC Cars. the Surrey-based sports car manufacturer, has gone into receivership, it was announced yesterday. Price Waterhouse, the receivers, said none of the 90 staff had been laid off, production was continuing and it was confident of finding a buyer for the company, formed in 1901.

# Adams given cold shoulder by angry allies in US

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

SENATOR Edward Kennedy, the leading Irish-American politician, has refused to see Gerry Adams when the Sinn Fein president arrives in Washington next week for St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Mr Kennedy, one of the first to campaign for a United States visa for Mr Adams at the start of 1994, has decided he will not grant him his usual audience on Capitol Hill.

"If the ceasefire is resumed before Gerry Adams comes to town. I am sure that Senator Kennedy will see Mr Adams." a spokesman for Mr Kennedy said. His reluctance reflects increasing frustration among members of the Clinton Administration in the failure of Mr Adams to deliver peace in Northern Ireland.

American support for the Sinn Fein leader has weakened because of the London 
bombings and the increasingly bellicose language of IRA 
hardliners. The White House, 
which last week renewed Mr 
Adams's three-month visa, 
has said he may not raise 
funds and will not have formal 
meetings with any government departments.

ment departments.

Mr Adams has not received an invitation to the St Patrick's Day party at the White House next Friday, in contrast to last year when he was greeted as a statesman and welcomed personally by President Clinton. Mr Adams will have travelled on to Pennsylvania when the party starts.

However, David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, has been invited and will attend. White House with Anthony Lake, the National Security

Any discussions with the Sinn Fein president are expected to be conducted at a distance. But he is still likely to meet Christopher Dodd, influential chairman of the Democratic Party and the strongest advocate on Capitol Hill of continued contact with Sinn Fain

Sinn Fein was the only political party in Northern Ireland excluded when the British and Irish Governments sent out last night separate discussion papers outlining options for the Province's forthcoming elections.

I Sir Patrick Mayhew yesterday sacked two leading members of the Northern Ireland Police Authority who have led calls to reform the Royal

Ulster Constabulary to make it more acceptable to nationalists.

David Cook, the chairman, and Chris Ryder, his closest ally on the body, have been removed by the Northern Ireland Secretary after the authority passed motions of no confidence in them last

no confidence in them last month. Sir Patrick asked the two men to resign during separate meetings at Stormont Castle yesterday. When they refused he terminated their appointments. Sir Patrick said: "It was clear that the authority could not function effectively and

Sir Patrick said: "It was clear that the authority could not function effectively and efficiently under Mr Cook's continued chairmanship, nor with Mr Ryder as a member." Pat Armstrong, the vice-chairman, will become chairman.



Fir Alexander Fleming and the spore of mould, which was expected to fetch £10,000

# Fleming's penicillin spore auctioned for £23,000

By John Shat

sale with Paul, 15, and Zoe.

A SPORE of the original mould which led Sir Alexander Fleming to discover penicillin was sold for £23,000 at Sotheby's in London yesterday. The minute sample of Penicillium notatum is mounted on a 2in diameter slide. A handwritten inscription on the back reads: "The mould that makes penicillin.

Alexander Fleming."

The original glass plate is preserved in Fleming's laboratory in St Mary's Hospital. London, but the scientist gave two tiny specimens to his assistant Dan Stratful, one of which he passed on to his secretary, Diane Huntingford, 49, of Tonbridge, Kent,

who is now a schools administrator.

Mrs Huntingford, who decided to sell the example and invest the proceeds for her two children, attended the

13. who are at Sevenoaks School. Mrs Huntingford said: "I'm delighted and very pleased it did so well. The children are at private school and this will provide for their future. They want to go on the stage and drama school is so expensive."

Asked if she had any re-

Asked if she had any regrets about selling the souvenir, she said: "Yes, I have slight regrets. It's an historic thing with a wonderful background but it's something I could never display. You had to treat it very carefully and that's why I kept it in a hat box. It was there for years. The children will have some money behind them now. I think that's the important

The buyer was Pfizer of Sandwich, Kent, a branch of the international pharmaceu-

tical company based in New York. A spokeswoman said the specimen was bought ahead of the company's 150th anniversary in 1999. Pfizer helped Fleming with his ground-breaking work, which saved thousands of lives during World War II. The bacteriologist shared the Nobel prize for his discovery in 1945 and died in 1955.

The underbidder was Eric Turner, who was acting for The Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, which is building up its collection of scientific items. He said the museum was interested in the specimen because Lord Florey, who came from Adelaide, belped in the development of penicillin with Fleming.

A spokeswoman for Pfizer

A spokeswoman for Pfizer said the company discovered how to mass produce penicillin.

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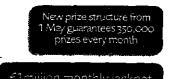
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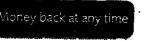
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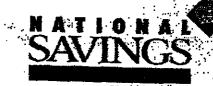
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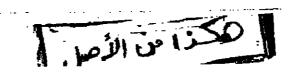






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# 'Devil voices' may have led Beale to kill baby

BY BILL FROST

CAROLINE BEALE may have believed she was possessed by the devil when she killed her baby in New York, said her psychiatrist as the 32-year-old civil servant arrived back in Britain yesterday.

Miss Beale, who was sent home from the United States to serve five years' probation for killing her newborn baby girl, was suffering from an acute psychosis at the time of the child's death, said Channi Kumar. Professor of Perinatal Psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital in southeast London, where her treatment began last night.

Professor Kumar said Miss Beale may have heard voices in her head instructing her to kill the baby as a result of the post-partum psychosis she had developed. He said Miss Beale's ordeal had left her exhausted and very vulnerable. She is still in a state of shock. I have visited the prison where she was held and it gave me nightmares."

gave me nightmares."

She was said to be "safe, well, and resting" and likely to remain an in-patient for up to three weeks at the hospital while her condition was assessed. She is also receiving medication and an intensive course of psychotherapy is planned.

planned.
Miss Beale, who while staying at a New York hotel killed
her child by placing her in a

plastic bag, arrived at Garwick yesterday morning after a flight from New York. She went through immigration and customs procedures, avoiding public areas, before being driven away.

being driven away.

Her return marks the end of an 18-month ordeal which started when she was arrested at John F. Kennedy airport in September 1994, and charged with murder after the body of her baby — called Olivia Ann — was found hidden in a plastic bag under her coat.

Miss Beale admitted man-

Miss Beale admitted manslaughter of the child on Monday in a plea bargain. She ws sentenced to the eight months she had already spent on remand at Riker's Island Prison in New York. She was also ordered to undergo psychiatric care in Britain for at least a year.

The numerous court appearances led her parents Peter and Daphne, from Chingford, Essex, bitterly to criticise the US judicial system. Under US law, taking the life of an infant is murder. But under British law the crime is regarded as manslaughter.

Mr and Mrs Beale — who claim that their daughter's baby was stillborn and that she was driven to conceal the death as a result of post-natal depression — said Caroline's prosecution was barbaric and medieval. Their comments in-



Hanophy: attacked Mr Beale as a big mouth

furinted New York State Supreme Court Judge Robert Hanophy, who said Mr Beale had "a big mouth" and that the couple's remarks "got under my skin". He ordered that deeds to two houses which Mr Beale put up as bail surety for his daughter should be held until her probation period was up.

Judge Hanophy, an American of Irish descent, has 36 years experience at the Bar and is one of a select number of judges allowed to pass New York State's newly-legalised death sentence. It was never an option in the case of Miss Beale, who was only ever charged with second degree murder and, later, manslaughter. Professor Kumar

said yesterday that postpartum psychosis was "an acute and severe condition which leads to alienation from reality and the patient can hear voices ordering her to kill her child. She might also believe she was possessed by the devil," he explained.

He said that Miss Beale convinced herself her daughter was already dead when she was born. She had also refused to acknowledge that she was ever pregnant.

However, Professor Kumar

However, Professor Kumar said that, given time, there was no reason why Miss Beale should not make a good recovery.

"This ordeal has left scars on her — a post-traumatic stress disorder. She is depressed and anxious after what was a very unpleasant experience."

Michael Dowd, Miss Beale's US lawyer, who travelled to London with her, said the pressure on his client had been intense. "It was quite unimaginable — Caroline used to shake uncontrollably court, her legs couldn't support her.

"I marvel at her courage. She has now discovered a level of strength she did not know she possessed."

Miss Beale's last night family set about making plans for the return of her baby's body to Britain for a proper burial. The child was interred in a pauper's grave in New York.



Caroline Beale arrives at the Maudsley Hospital to begin psychiatric treatment

# Newborn accorded greater rights in US

By Richard Ford Home correspondent

IF Caroline Beale had been arrested in Britain, as a native she would have been treated as a woman suffering from a mental disorder. She would have been given a medical examination at the police station and, as a baby had died, senior officers would probably have asked that she be seen by a psychiatrist.

a psychiatrist.

The majority of police officers in Britain would assume that a woman in Miss Beale's position needed medical help and sympathetic treatment. It is almost axiomatic for police to consider that a woman who has killed a newborn baby may be suffering from a psychiatric disorder." Graham Sandell, head of the mental health division at the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said.

However, a foreign national caught with a dead baby in a plastic bag, as Miss Beale had been in America, would be treated differently from an English national and would probably be held in custody.

Mr Sandell said: "We make an assumption that a woman who kills a baby of less than 12 months will be suffering from some kind of mental health problem. In the US they act on the basis that the unborn and just born have more rights than we would accord them."

### Jail for sex abuse canon who kept job

By TIM JONES

THE Church of England allowed a senior clergyman to continue his ministry while knowing he was alleged to have abused young boys, a court was told yesterday. Canon Terence Knight, 57, a former member of the General Synod, who assaulted seven boys, remained in his post for ten years after mothers first complained to his superiors.

Mrs Justice Ebsworth, jailing him yesterday for 3½

boys, remained in his post for ten years after mothers first complained to his superiors.

Mrs Justice Ebsworth, jailing him yesterday for 3½ years, told him: "It is apparent that the Church took the view with knowledge of these events that you could still properly serve the Church and community. But I have to consider a wider aspect and that is the public perception of the abuse of the trust of children. It is a tragedy for the Anglican Church and for the congregations who have respected and loved you for your work."

work."

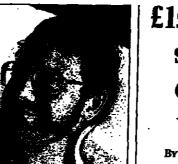
Winchester Crown Court was told that Mr Knight, who became a priest at St Saviour's in Stamshaw, Portsmouth in 1975, preyed on boys after encouraging them to stay at his home. Charles Cochand, for the prosecution, said an Ilyear-old was asked to do stretching exercises naked on the bed and a 12-year-old was encouraged to have a bath while Mr Knight washed him.

A group of mothers con-

fronted him about the allegations in 1985 but decided not to take the complaints to the police after his superiors were informed.

Canon Howard Barker,

Canon Howard Barker, spokesman for the Portsmouth diocese, said last night: "I can only assume that the full facts weren't made clear to the Church because this is a very serious, unfortunate and horrible set of circumstances."



Gibson: praised by Foreign Secretary

### Diplomat dies after Nairobi shooting

By Emma Wilkins

A BRITISH diplomat left paralysed after being shot on duty in Nairobi died yesterday. Graeme Gibson, 43, was recuperating at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Buckinghamshire, when his condition deteriorated unexpectedly.

His injuries had left him

paralysed from the chest down but with some movement in his shoulders. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, paid tribute to Mr Gibson: "All who saw

eign Secretary, paid tribute to Mr Gibson: "All who saw Graeme after the dreadful shooting incident were impressed by the courage and cheerfulness with which he had faced up to his injuries. "He was an officer in the best traditions of the diplo-

matic service. It is small comfort at this time, but we can all be proud of him."

Mr Gibson's wife Pamela, 39, had been at his bedside since the shooting in November. He had two daughters from a previous marriage.

The National Spinal Inju-

ber. He han two daughters from a previous marriage.

The National Spinal Injuries Centre said that despite full resuscitation treatment.

Mr Gibson died shortly after midday. A post-mortem examination is to be carried out.

### £15,000 for sacked cancer victim

By A STAFF REPORTER

A FIRM that sacked an ac-

countant after she was diagnosed as having cancer during her pregnancy acted with "appalling disregard" for her plight, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday. Carole Coe, 30, of Hyde,

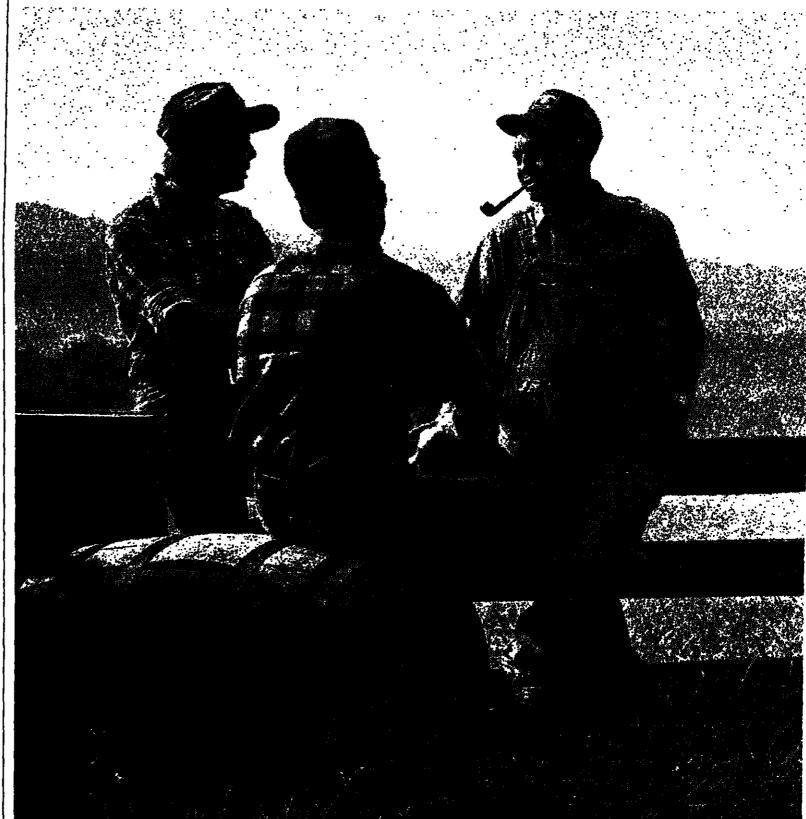
Greater Manchester, arrived home from hospital after chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment for cervical cancer to find a letter telling her she was dismissed from her £23,000-a-year job. She was awarded £15,000 in compensation for hurt feelings and aggravated damages from Tee Gee Snacks, of Leeds.

Miss Coe, who now lives on benefits, must wait for a decision on whether her claim for more than £100,000 in lost future earnings has been successful. The tribunal, which last month ruled in favour of Miss Coe's claim that she was the victim of sex discrimination, had heard that the firm wrongly believed she was not automatically entitled to return to work after maternity leave because she had worked there for less than two years.

But at the Manchester hearing to decide the amount of compensation yesterday, tribunal chairman Jill Barshaw said: "The circumstances have simply taken our breath away. How anyone could have behaved in such a manner is beyond our understanding."

She added: "The circumstances in which she learned of her dismissal were aggravated, we believe, by the appalling disregard the respondents had for her medical condition. This was an injury to her feelings that would not have been short-lived."

No one was available for comment at Tee Gee Snacks last night.



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### JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

# Head warns career mothers to avoid 'opulent neglect'

EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

WORKING mothers risk damaging their children's emotional lives if they return to their careers without carefully considering the consequences, a leading headmaster warned yesterday.

Roy Chapman, head of
Malvern College in Worces
tershire, said it was possible
for women to pursue highflying careers without harming their children but should
only do so after a great deal
of thought.

of thought.

The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, which represents 240 leading independent schools, backed Mr Chapman by warning against the dangers of "opulent neglect" afflicting young-

sters whose working parents are too busy to see them. Mr. Chapman, a former

are too busy to see them.

Mr Chapman, a former it must choose that he was not opposed to women holding top jobs but he had seen too many children damaged by the neglect of their career mothers.

In an article called Working Mothers, Mr Chapman said: "It is possible for families to have a working mother and to have children whose emotional development is not stunted. But it does not happen without a great deal of thought... I would not wish to deprive mothers of the opportunity to go back to work. But it is those who have to make compromises who lose out by getting the worst of both worlds.

Mr Chapman said: "If there is any moral in all this, it must be that mothers who choose to return to work should do so without any

pangs of guilt."

Tony Evans, the conference's current chairman, said that there were three great dangers to the fabric of society: absent fathers, the frequency of divorce, and working mothers who neglect their children.

their children.

He said working mothers needed to realise they could not regiment their lives so they planned a limited amount of quality time with their children. "I am very sceptical about this quality time. Children just need time and you cannot legislate for when they will need it," he

told journalists in Hong Kong that he "certainly" wanted to return to British politics, one could hear the authentic tone of Balliol ambition

at a range of 8,000 miles . . . 9 Patten's circumstances strangely echo those of Lord Curzon, who returned in 1906 from being viceroy of India. Robert Harris, in News Review — The Sunday Times tomorrow

# Father and friend give part of lung to save girl

TWO people have given part of their lungs to save a dying girl in the first operation in Britain involving living lung donors. The father of Clare Wildman, who has the lung disease cystic fibrosis, and her mother's best friend each donated a lobe of their lungs.

The operation, performed by Sir Magdi Yacoub, is believed to be the first in the world involving an unrelated living lung donor. Clare, from Mill Hill, north London, can now breathe almost normally after needing oxygen con-

tinually for the past two years.

Jude Harris, for 30 years a friend of Clare's mother, Averil, agreed to become a donor after doctors said Mrs Wildman she was not a good match for Clare and neither were Clare's uncles or aunts. Similar operations have been

performed in America but ihese have involved relatives. Adult lungs have five lobes. Donors who give up a single lobe lose about 20 per cent of their lung capacity but can still lead normal lives.

Once transplanted into the lobe expand to fill the space in the chest cavity and function like a complete lung. Patients with cystic fibrosis, in which the lungs become congested with mucous and progressively damaged, do not need a fullsize adult lung since they tend to be small because of their illness. Clare is aged 20.

Dr Margaret Hodson, head of the department of cystic fibrosis at the Royal Brompton Hospital, west London, who cared for the Wildmans, said: You won't be able to run a four-minute mile after donat-



Clare Wildman with her father, Graham, and Jude Harris, who each gave a lobe of their lungs for transplant

ing a lobe but you can do all the normal things like house-

work and gardening." Dr Hodson said donors had to pass a series of physical tests. They were also interviewed by a psychiatrist to ensure they had considered all the implications. She said 95 per cent of cystic fibrosis sufferers died of lung disease. "When you reach end-stage respiratory failure and you have had maximal medical treatment with physiotherapy and antibiotics your only

chance is a transplant. But the options are limited because of the shortage of organs."

Details of the operation, carried out at Harefield Hospital, west London, last July. were disclosed yesterday after a dinner for Sir Magdi given by the businessman Mohamed Al Fayed to raise money for research. It emerged that Clare has suffered a rare neurological sideeffect of the drugs used to control rejection of the organs which has left her paralysed

from the waist down. Dr Hodson said: "Any transplant sur-gery has risks; the most common are infection and rejection. This is a very rare side-effect, not related to the surgery.

Clare has to do breathing exercises and is on powerful anti-rejection drugs but her quality of life has improved and she is planning to go to college and to travel.

Clare's mother approached the Royal Brompton having read of parents in America

giving part of their lungs to their children. Mrs Harris said: "At first it

was easy just saying yes. I was very frightened as the operation got closer but there was It is very unfortunate." no way I wasn't going to do it. They wanted to be sure we understood what we were doing and that there was no pressure on us. I just didn't want Clare to die." Clare's father, Graham, said: "They told me I would lose 20 per cent of my lung capacity but it would mean Clare would live."

> **Jobseeker** waits for his ship to

> > BY PAUL WILKINSON

come in

A DESCENDANT of the founder of the shipbuilder Swan Hunter is one of thousands hoping to win back their jobs at the yard.

David Swan, 57. great-grandson of Sir Charles wan, who started his yard in Wallsend in 1873, has applied for his old position in the quality assurance department. He is one of 4,000 Tynesiders who have sought work at Swan this week after details of a big order were released by its new owner, THC. of The Netherlands.

About 1.200 jobs are being created by a £50 million contract to convert the 127,500-tonne oilfield pipelayer Solitaire for a Swiss firm. Swan, which built some of Britain's most famous oceangoing liners and warships. went into receivership in May 1993, when it employed 2,400 people. Until recently only 200 have remained, working on care and maintenance.

Mr Swan, a widowed father two. from Jesmond. Newcastle upon Tyne, was made redundant in the final round of job losses in May 1994. He described that moment as the "worst in my

family's history". He said: "I am hoping and waiting. There are a lot of skilled men out there just waiting to work. If I get my job back it will be strange to walk through those gates."



David Swan: hopes to get his old job back

Princess's . stalker

WEND WESTER

committed to hospital

A German doctor who has been following the Princess of a mental hospital for 28 days. The prosecution at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, central London, dropped charges of breach of the peace and obstructing police against Dr

Klaus Wagner, 37. Wagner had been led away by police from a charity func-tion at which the Princess appeared last night. Nazir Afzal, for the prosecution, told the court: "He is deluded, he requires urgent treatment, he is a danger both to himself and the public."

309 forced out by Services gay ban

A total of 309 people left the Services between 1990 and 1994 because of their sexual orientation, Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, said yesterday in a Commons written reply. The disclosure comes after publication of a review of policy on homosexuals in the forces, which found that an overwhelming majority supported the current ban. Mr Soames pledged this week to "fight every inch of the way" to keep the ban.

Temazepam ban ruled lawful

A government decision to stop GPs prescribing gel-filled capsules of the drug temazepam on the NHS has been upheld in the High Court. Mr Justice Judge rejected an appeal by the pharmaceutical company R.P. Scherer that the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, had erred in law when he decided to ban its product from being prescribed to NHS patients after the capsules were linked to deaths and injury in drug addicts.

Navy drugs haul

The Royal Navy frigate HMS Brave has seized almost half a tonne of cocaine with a street value of £10 to £15 million in a joint operation with the US Coastguard in the Caribbean. It was the warship's third big drugs haul.

History protest

Archaeologists will join protesters today against the New-bury bypass, which threatens the remains of ancient settlements. Rob Young, of the British Archaelogical Trust. said: "Unless we act our past will

Breath test plea

A chef who drove to a police station demanding to be breathalysed was four times over the limit, magistrates at Cirencester, Gloucestershire, were told. Douglas Sinton, 37, pleaded guilty to drink-driving. He will be sentenced later.

Farmers' leader

his sentence reduced on appeal. Troy Donahue, of Heaton, Newcastle upon Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne, who denied contempt.

finder,

will serve one month.

Sandy Mole, from Reston Borders, has been elected president of the National Farmers' Union of Scotland. Mr Mole, formerly vice-president, is also vice-chairman of the Scottish Agricultural and Rural Development Board. Less of a blow A man jailed for three months for blowing a raspberry at magistrates in Darlington had

# NatWest

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# Pigeons occupy prominent perch in London history

COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

TRAFALGAR SQUARE, scene of the theft of up to 4,000 pigeons, has been a traditional rendezvous for the birds since Nelson's Column was erected in 1841. But they have been residents of the city for centuries, and considered a pest for almost as long. In the late 14th century the

Bishop of London complained that people throwing stones at pigeons were breaking the windows of St Paul's Cathe-dral. In his diary entry for September 2, 1666, during the Great Fire of London, Samuel Pepys wrote: "The poor pigeons were loath to leave their houses but hovered about the windows and balconies till some of them burned their wings and fell down."

The denizens of Trafalgar Square, known as feral pigeons, are motley-hued mongrels which have interbred with racing pigeons, pouters, fantails and other fancies that have escaped from domestic lofts. They are all descended from the wild rock dove whose Latin name, Columba livia, they share.

\*Rock doves are now rare, confined to coastal cliffs on Orkney, the Shetland Islands and the Hebrides." Mike Everett, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said. Even feral pigeons are quite thin on the ground in the countryside because of loss of habitat and weedy fields in which to find seed."

In city centres, pigeons nest on roofs, parapets, bridges and window ledges and in nearest equivalent of their

on a dinner plate, according to

First a word of warning: the

wood pigeon to its town-bred cousins. Feral pigeons are

suspected of being carriers of

meningitis, dermatitis, and

☐ Raymond Blanc's breast

of wild pigeon with red wine

Ingredients: four pigeons, oil,

2 bottle of red wine, four

1. Lift the breasts from the

pigeon. Remove the skin. Re-

Chop the carcasses and legs.

virulent gastro-enteritis.

juniper berries.

serve the breasts.

chefs. But if you haven't a coo



Pepys: wrote of birds' plight in Great Fire

ancestral cliffs. Pigeons have flocked to the capital in growing numbers in recent decades because of the plentiful food supply, from fast-food scraps to bread put out by birdlovers.

A government-licensed seed vendor has been stationed in Trafalgar Square-for 50 years. The food supply is so good that a pair of birds is able to breed up to seven times a year, each brood averaging 1.2 young. Pigeon droppings have be-

come a menace, the acid content eating away at buildings and even the steelwork on bridges. The National Heritage Department spends E100,000 a year on washing Trafalgar Suuare each morning and removing up to a ton of pigeon faeces annually from Nelson's Column.

The official population of feral pigeons is put at 200,000 but Rentokil, the pest control company, says there are at least 1.5 million in London

Britain's most numerous pigeon is the woodpigeon. Columba palumbus, which is. half as big again as its town cousin with a grey back, pink

caramelised. Add half a bottle

of red wine. Reduce by half.

Cover with water. Bring to the

boil. skim and barely simmer

for one hour. Strain the juices

consistency. Add the juniper

3. Pre-heat oven to 400F. Pan-

fry the breasts in hot oil for 30

seconds on each side and roast

in the pre-heated oven for five

minutes. Rest for two minutes.

cabbage and spoon the sauce

Chef's note: A very easy recipe.

4. Serve on a bed of stewed

FIRST, CATCH YOUR BIRD

gourmet will always prefer the and reduce right down to

around.

THE best place for a pigeon is Sear in hot oil

wing stripes. There are 2.5 million breeding pairs, which are joined in winter by thousands of migrants from the

Woodpigeons make excellent eating and tens of thousands are shot every year. mainly by farmers who are licensed to treat the birds as crop pests.
The three other native pi

geons are the stock dove (Columba oena), the turtle dove (Streptopelia turtur) and the collared dove (Strepto pelia decaocto).

Racing pigeons are of the same species as rock doves and feral pigeons but are the product of years of breeding to select those with the best homing instincts. Pigeon breeding is known to have been practised as long ago as 3000 BC in Ancient Egypt.

The Sultan of Baghdad established a pigeon-post system in 1150 and Genghis Khan used pigeons as messengers to spread news of his conquests. Paul Julius Reuter used carrier pigeons as well as electric telegraphy for his prototype news service in Paris in 1849.

Leading article, page 21



Can't catch me: a pigeon taking up a safe perch in Trafalgar Square yesterday

# 'He'd better not let me see him doing it again'

IF THE mysterious pigeon fancier who has been kidnapping Trafalgar Square's best-known residents had returned to the scene yesterday, he could have expected an unfriendly encounter with one

Bernard Rayner Mr Rayner is a burly Londoner who sells cartons of maize, nuts and barley at 25p a time from a stall beneath Nelson's Column. He be-comes suitably miffed if he perceives a threat to his livelihave seen the thief at work

twice in the past few days.

"He came along with a cardboard box full of corn and, after he'd enticed the birds inside he shut the lid and carried them away," he said. I asked him what he wanted the birds for, and he said for breeding purposes. But I said that was rubbish and that he was hoping to make a profit. He looked a bit shifty at that."

He described the man as in his early 20s, of raixed race, wearing blue overalls and a maroon baseball cap. When they met for the second time, Mr Rayner took action, emptying the box and tearing it to pieces. "He'd better not let me

Most of the yesterday's visi-

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SANYO CLT1

memory

tors seemed unaware of such goings-on. Carol Jackson, from Edinburgh, watching ber children Kieran, 9, and Caitlin, 5, surrounded by a large flock of the noisy, messy and intrusive birds, said she could not imagine Trafalgar Square without the pigeons. Another Scot, George Watson, from Aberdeen, with his daughter Rona and eightyear-old grandson Kevin, asked what anyone could possibly want to steal pigeons for. "It's a strange country, England," he added. Two French girls, Françoise Desmarches and Angelique Steuperaert, also seemed to regard pigeonstealing as a peculiarly English vice.

Veronica Springate and her friend Melissa, both from Texas, stood festooned with pigeons, while Veronica's sister took photographs. "I think it's wrong and should be stopped," Melissa said. Were there any pigeons in Texas?

"None that I've seen."

Tina Grundwig, from Copenhagen, with her two children, thought London a beautiful city but that it would be better still without the pigeons. "I'm really not fond of pigeons," she confided. "We have too many at home and they're a nuisance.'



If you want to omit the sauce simply serve pan-fried breasts with cranberry sauce. Pigeon goes very well with stewed red cabbage and blackcurrant cassis and vinegar. ☐ Casserole of pigeons: Lard

pigeons with bacon, fry in butter till browned, place in casserole covered with good gravy, adding spring onlons and button mushrooms, red wine, salt and pepper, Cook in slaw oven for 45 minutes.

☐ Pigeons in Disguise: Draw and truss the pigeons, season with pepper and salt, roll each in a piece of pull-pastry, tie them in a cloth and boil for an hour and a half. When untied put them in a dish, taking care not to break the casing. Serve with good grayy.

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## Serve with stewed red cabbage and cassis **Treasure Bill buries** 'finders keepers'

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER REFORM of the laws of treasure trove to safeguard the nation's gold and silver antiquities won government backing yesterday. Ministers gave their full support to a backbench Bill that will force treasure hunters to report all booty to the Crown which

will then offer a reward. The Bill will affect thousands of professional and amateur archaeologists who uncover around 400,000 objects a year, and will end the tradition of "finders keepers". Ministers said it would increase the number of finds defined as treasure from about 25 a year to 250. Their aim is to stem the tide of ancient artefacts being sold

Under medieval law, which MPs yesterday deemed to be archaic, the Crown has the right to buried antiquities only if it can prove that the treasure was hidden with the intention of recovery, and the descendants of the person who buried it cannot be found. The rules were set during Richard the Lionheart's reign. Coroners juries had to decide what the dead were thinking when

they buried their goods. If the Crown won, it offered the finder a reward; if it lost, it could have no further claim. Under the new Bill. brought in by Sir Anthony Grant, Tory MP for Cam-bridgeshire South West and

supported by the Opposition. the Crown would automatically receive any hidden trea-sure and the finder would be compensated. The Crown could also lay claim to items associated with the treasure. such as the pot in which it was found.

Any object at least 300 years old and containing more than 5 per cent precious metal will now be classed as treasure trove. although single coins will be excluded. There will be a new offence of not declaring a find: treasure hunters' rights to claim rewards will be safeguarded; and landowners will have new rights to be informed of finds on their grounds and be eligible for rewards if the finder is

trespassing. Sir Anthony described the current law as 'a medieval lottery" that had resulted in important finds being lost to March Patror Found tended: Nutri People Lung Londer Nation Advice opene Hook Libras The Britis port ( 119 G 119 G

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Leukaemia clinic given £30,000

# Father of cancer girl sets up fund for sick children

THE father of Jaymee Bowen, the 11-year-old girl refused a second bone-marrow transplant on the NHS, has donated £31,000 to the private clinic which stepped in to treat her for leukaemia.

A year after the Court of Appeal ruled that Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commission need not fund his daughter's £75,000 treatment because the chances of success were so slim, David Bowen has founded a charitable fund at the London Clinic to help

children in Jaymee's position. Mr Bowen, 32, said the money, raised in an appeal by the Daily Mirror, was intended to help another child denied similar cancer treatment from oublic funds "and make sure the nightmare we went through does not have to

happen to someone else". Jaymee, who was given less than six weeks to live after being diagnosed as suffering from acute myeloid leukaemia, continues to do well. She received donor lymphocyte infusion paid for by a private benefactor. The experimental treatment, which involves killing leukaemia cells with chemotherapy and flooding the body with healthy donated blood, was not available on

the NHS last March. Jaymee has started her first year at secondary school in Hertfordshire, taken up rollerskating and learnt to ride a mountain bike. She has been eased off steroids and will start another drug soon. Although she gets breathless easily, she insists that she is happy and regrets none of the treatment she had.

As she ate pizza in a restaurant close to the family's new home in Sawbridgeworth, where she lives with her father, his partner Susan, her ten-year-old sister Charlotte and two-year-old half-sister Phoebe, Jaymee was unwill-



Jaymee: she continues to make good progress

ing to play the media star. "I'm okay, really I am. What I really want is not to be treated as someone special: I'm just like everybody else really.

"At school people sometimes say to me, 'Are you that girl that was on the telly? I just mutter 'Yes' and change the subject. I'm glad I'm still here and my dad had proved all those doctors wrong.

It was on March 10 last year that three Appeal Court judges, led by Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls. ruled that NHS funds were not limitless and that her local health commission could not be forced to pay for a second bone-marrow transplant. "In a perfect world any treatment would be provided no matter how much it cost ... but it would be shutting our eyes to proceed on the basis that we live in such a world," the

judges said. The commission had argued on advice from doctors at Addenbrooke's Hospital, in Cambridge, that Jaymee's first transplant had not worked and that her chances of surviving a second were only 2.5 per

After a national outcry, an anonymous benefactor donated £75,000 for Jaymee to be treated by Dr Peter Gravett at the London Clinic. He reached the same conclusion, that

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less, and embarked instead on the experimental lymphocyte treatment. The chances of a cure are put at around 20 to 30

Diana Jakubowska, speaking for the Cambridge and Huntingdon Health Commis-sion, said it stood by its orginal decision to refuse a second transplant. She said that the lymphocyte treatment had developed at a great pace" since last March. Four children are currently receiving donor lymphocyte infusion at the Royal Marsden

Hospital on NHS funds. \*Of course we are delighted if things are going well for Jaymee." Ms Jakubowska said. "But we are still convinced that we made the right decision based on the advice from the doctors at Addenbrooke's at that time."

She said the lymphocyte treatment Jaymee received privately had not been properly tested for children and thus was not available on the NHS at the time. "However, medical science is changing all the time. If we had the same situation again now. maybe the advice from the doctors would be different."



Air stewardess Andrea Carter modelling a dress by Bruce Oldfield, below right, who showed his collection on a BA flight to New York

# Oldfield takes fashion to new heights

PASSENGERS on a British Airways jumbo jet to New York were treated to inflight entertainment with a difference when the designer Bruce Oldfield showed his latest fashions at 35,000ft

(Amandip Uppal writes).
The aisles of the Boeing 747 were transformed into catwalks as six stewardesses became models for the seven-hour flight, swapping their BA uniforms for skirts and trouser suits teamed with silk over frilly bow-tie shirts. After changing on the jumbo's top deck, they paraded in a circuit past the surprised passengers.

The show, which was to publicise the opening of Oldfield's new shop in the West End of London, consisted of fashions for autumn and winter '96. It included his first ready-to-wear collecblack and white suits. The in-flight film was replaced by a

simultaneous screening of the fashion show, complete with a running commentary from Oldfield. The climax came as the designer accompanied a model as she showed a £9,000 wedding dress. Nicola Peet, one of the models, said: "I'm sure the passengers enjoyed it."



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# "Shires earthquake gives residents cause for alarm

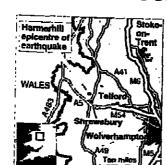
By NICK NUTEALL TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE tiny hamlet of Harmerhill in Shropshire was put on the map yesterday by becoming the centre of Britain's first earthquake of the year. Residents in towns near by scampered from their beds as the quake, measuring 3.2 on the Richter scale, rumbled through Britain's most seismi-

· While hardly ranking on the scale of those that have devastated Japan and western America, the Harmerhill event did set off burglar alarms and a hamster in Shrewsbury was jolted out of his box into the bottom of his cage. Jackie Murris, his owner, said: "When I was woken up by the vibrations I didn't know what was happening and then I noticed that the hamster had fallen out of his little house."

Catherine Griffiths, of Casttlefields. Shrewsbury, said: The house rocked for a second. It was a faint rumble as if a juggernaut had gone past but without the noise."

Police were deluged by hundreds of calls shortly after II. lipm on Thursday. Inspector John Ransley, of West Mercia Constabulary, said many people thought it might



be a terrorist bomb. "The calls came from a wide area including Shrewsbury, Telford, Wem, Baystonhill and villages in between," he said.

The event, which lasted a few seconds, was detected by the British Geological Survey in Edinburgh. A spokesman said Britain could expect three earthquakes a year measuring as high as three on the Richter scale. More than 300 seismic events occur in Britain each year with Wales and the Borders being the most active areas. But the survey believes the country can never suffer anything bigger than an earthquake measuring six on

That is because the British Isles are too far from big geological faults or where the earth's plates grind together. The main concentration of these is in the so called "ring of fire" around the Pacific, Nevcaused to property and people have been killed by earthquakes in Britain. North Wales and northwest England are particularly sensitive

In 1580 two people died in London after a quake struck along a geological fault stretching from Kent to Belgium. The most damaging quake in more recent times hir Colchester, Essex, in 1884 and was said to have killed four people. It also damaged 1,200 homes and flattened a church.

The biggest British earthquake this century centred on north Wales in July 1984 and recorded 5.4 on the Richter scale, causing aftershocks around most of the country.

In April 1990, the area was the epicentre of a severe quake as a 20-second tremor centred on Wrexham measured 5.2. It caused buildings across the West Midlands and Black Country to be evacuated, toppled chimneys and caused structural damage.

In August 1992, the British Geological Survey founds signs of a 120-mile fault beneath the Irfon valley in Wales, which may explain why the area is the centre of so much seismic activity. The fault runs from north of Carmarthen in a north-easterly direction.





Richard Weekly, a horticulturist at Kew Gardens in west London, on picket duty outside the main gates yesterday during a strike by gardeners. The stoppage, the first in Kew's history of more than 200 years, was hailed as a resounding success" by the GMB general union.

It said it had recruited new members from among staff in

### Kew gardeners take to picket line

walked out in protest at a performance-related pay offer which the union said would lead to increases of only £65 a year for some staff. Paul Maloney, GMB regional officer, said from the picket line.

the dispute over pay. Bota-nists and horticulturists tic with around 95 per cent of our members joining the strike. We have also recruited new members and we have received a lot of support from the public who are signing our petition. We hope that the

the staff and meet us for talks because we don't want to take further strike action."

The management has said that the performance-related element of the pay rise would increase average earnings by 6.5 per cent. The lowest fig-

would relate to only six out of the 154 horticultural staff at the gardens.

Kew, which is staging its annual orchid festival, was open as normal yesterday. A spokeswoman said earlier that other staff were not involved in the dispute and that many gardening staff were not in the GMB.

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# THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

### Farmers go to court over ostriches By A STAFF REPORTER

AN OSTRICH breeder took court action against a rival yesterday, accusing him of copying his methods. The Ostrich Breeding and Farming Corporation, which was set up in 1986, is seeking to take legal action against the Ostrich Breeding Company, which started its 100-acre farm 18 months ago. Robin Higgens, spokesman

for the group, which is based in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, told the High Court in London that the rival company, based in Swansea, was imicking its offers and publicity. But a spokesman for the company said: "If they think they have a sole right over ostrich breeding and farming, they don't."

Ostrich meat - with the taste of fillet steak and less fat than fish — is being hailed as the dish of the future, and its supporters claim it will become as cheap and plentiful as turkey within ten years.

The group won an order for a full High Court action.

### Newspaper reported to Lyell

BY RICHARD DUCE

A JUDGE referred the Daily Mail to the Attorney-General. Sir Nicholas Lyell, yesterday over an article that led to the collapse of an Old Bailey trial. The newspaper apologised

on Thursday for publishing details that had not been put before the jury in the arson case against Anthony King, a disc jockey who terrorised the family of his ex-girlfriend. The trial judge, Recorder James Chadwin, QC, said:

Because of the seriousness of the consequences, while accepting the sincerity of the apology. I have decided appropriate to refer the matter to the Attorney-General." The Daily Mail said that

one of its journalist had failed to recognise that certain material had not been meant for publication until the trial

After the jury was dis-charged, King, 25, was found not guilty of recklessly endangering life. He admitted live other charges and will be sentenced on March 28.

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# Conservationists derail Aviemore skiers' train

A £17 MILLION plan to build Britain's highest railway sta-tion in the Cairngorms has been blocked by Scotland's

leading conservation group. Scottish Natural Heritage. which advises the Government on environmental issues, has announced its opposition to the project, dubbed the "train to the heavens". Caimgorm Chairlift Company, which wants to replace its 35year-old ski tows, has said that the objections to the railway and proposed visitor centre could jeopardise the future of the Scottish skiing and tourism industry. The railway was expected to quadruple the number of summer visitors to

The project was unveiled in 1993 by the company, which runs the ski centre about ten miles from Aviemore. It would have created hundreds of jobs and injected £10 million into the Highland economy.

Environmentalists fear that the development could destroy moves to make the adjoining land a Special Area of Conservation. Ramblers, mountain-eers and the Royal Society for

the Protection of Birds have also opposed the scheme.

They fear that the prospect of hundreds more people swarming over the Cairngorm plateau, an area of fragile tundra, could wreak massive destruction on the mountain's flora and fauna. They could also disturb the nesting sites of rare birds such as the dotterel and the ptarmigan.

The one-and-a-quarter mile railway, one of the smallest in Britain, would carry 500 people every hour. The journey to the ski slopes would last five minutes.

The company revised its plans to try to accommodate the objections of Scottish Natural Heritage. It proposed to limit the size of the mountain-

duce a ranger service. Tim Whittome, the chairman of Cairngorm Chairlift.

said: "We had done all we could. The ranger system would have ensured that people did not trample on the sensitive alpine vegetation. I am so incensed by the objec-tions I am almost at a loss what to say. We have been asking Scottish Natural Heritage what we have to do to satisfy them ever since we started working with their officials back in August 1994. What more do they want? This is totally unnacceptable."

Magnus Magnusson, the chairman of Scottish Natural Heritage, said: "This has not been an easy decision. We have taken into account our duties not only for nature conservation but for the better understanding, enjoyment and sustainable use of the natural heritage. But the nature of this proposal has meant that too many uncer-tainties remained."

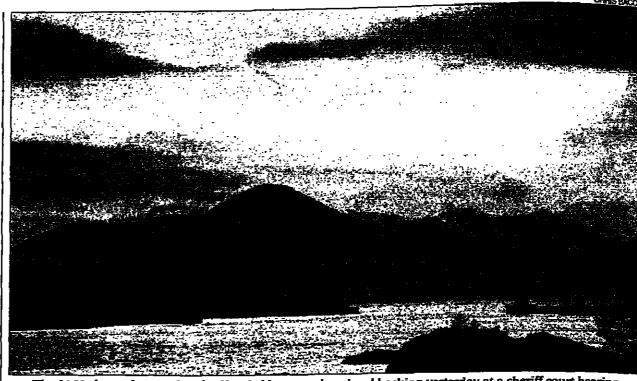
Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, may set up a public inquiry into the railway, which would run at a height of 3,600ft. The Royal

Society for the Protection of Birds, which owns 32,000 acres in the Cairngorms, has threatened to challenge the scheme in the European Court

The Highlands and Islands Enterprise Board has expressed disappointment at the outcome as it had expected a jobs boom in the area. European funding of up to £5 million has already been sought. The setback on the railway scheme comes only months after the Aviemore Centre in the town itself was sold in a £7.4 million deal that promised to revitalise the area.

Desmond Bloom, the colourful new owner, has promised a £16 million investment on the 100-acre site and plans are being drawn up for 71 holiday chalets, a swimming pool, hotels and a 700-seater cinema. Mr Bloom, a former boxer and minder to Screaming Lord Sutch, is an enthusiastic supporter of the railway

The centre, which was built in 1966, has suffered from years of underinvestment. Mr Bloom, whose Premier Land Group bought the centre, will create hundreds of new jobs.



The £4.30 charge for crossing the Skye bridge was given legal backing yesterday at a sheriff court hearing

# Sheriff rules Skye tolls are legal

By A STAFF REPORTER

TOLL charges for crossing the Skye bridge were ruled lawful yesterday. Sheriff James Fraser rejected the argument of protesters charged with alleged non-payment of the crossing tolls when they appearing before him in Ding-wall, Highland.

The court was packed by about 70 protesters who had marched through the town to the hearing led by a piper. carrying banners and waving

flags. Neil Murray, QC, counsel

for 180 people so far facing charges of non-payment of the £4.30 toll, had earlier argued that the charge was incompetent under several etatutory rules. The New Roads and Streets Act 1991, under which the tolls were charged, was contrary to the 1707 Treaty of April 17. Union between Scotland and England, he said. The tolls

that the Scottish Secretary was acting beyond his powers in introducing the toll order in 1992 Sheriff Fraser ruled in favour of the Crown in test cases against three of the accused. and refused an immediate right to appeal. The sheriff said that anyone found guilty after a trial could take up the appeal process at the Court of

were a breach of the uniformi-

ty of legislation of the two

countries. He had also argued

After a short adjournment the court was read the names of all 184 accused, with the

Appeal

of the first accused, George Anderson, will take place on April II. The remainder were set for May 13, with an intermediate hearing on

Only eight people have so far pleaded guilty to nonpayment of the tolls but sentencing has been deferred until the trial dates. As he left the bench after more than two hours, Sheriff Fraser told protesters: "Next week Dingwall will return to its normal humdrum — I will feel quite deprived."

The protesters assembled outside the courthouse before marching back to the town to their cars. One said: "Obviously we are disappointed at the sheriff's ruling but we are happy these questions have been asked for the benefit of the people of Scotland and those affected by the Skye

# Court backs change in night-flight noise

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE High Court ruled yesterday that the Government had not unlawfully changed its policy for restricting night noise at London's airports.

Mr Justice Jowitt ruled that the changes were not illegal, even though they could mean an increase in actual noise levels for residents, who complained that their health was being affected by sleepless nights. The decision was a defeat for six local authorities that brought the latest chall-

enge in a long-running battle over night flights. The judge refused leave to appeal and the councils are considering whether to apply directly to the Court of Appeal. The authorities had asked

the judge to declare that last year the Department of Trans port had "unlawfully and unfairly" adopted a quota system that allowed for a blatant increase in noise levels, in spite of a 1988 undertaking that the Government would seek to improve the situation at Heathrow and Gatwick, or at least ensure

Richard Gordon, QC, for the councils, said the Trade Secretary, while professing to adhere to the policy - taking as the benchmark for restrictions the noise levels for the summer of 1988 at Heathrow - had departed from it without giving residents a chance to make representations.



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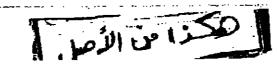
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# Clarke contradicts Major over call for referendum

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH CLARKE and John Major were at odds last night over a referendum on a single European currency amid mounting ministerial anxiety about the prospect of a new rift in Downing Street.

Less than 24 hours after the Prime Minister had left MPs with the unmistakable impression that the Cabinet was close to backing a referendum. the Chancellor made plain that he had not surrendered.

In an ITN interview, Mr Clarke declared: "We did not decide anything on this yesterday." His remarks contrasted sharply with Mr Major's verdict that a referendum could be a "necessary step" in resolving Tory tensions over Europe and defusing the threat to marginal Conservative seats posed by Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party. Sources said that Thursday's Cabinet had been the

scene of a hard-fought debate in which Mr Clarke had

argued strongly against a referendum. He was said to have been backed by John Gummer and Sir George Young but was heavily outnumbered.

Ministers are worried about provoking the Chancellor, one of the Cabinet's few heavyweights, although they doubt he would resign in protest. One source said: "He will have to accept it, though he will probably do so with ill grace. Chancellors do usually win, but not always. He's won the day on ruling out a single currency in the lifetime of the next Parliament, so he won't have been totally defeated."

It is also understood that the work on the practicalities of a referendum, Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, has been asked to report on whether ministers be allowed, as they were in 1975, to campaign for opposing sides,

and if other European matters should also be subject to a referendum

Mr Clarke's intervention coincided with a burst of backbench feuding. Sir Norman Fowler, the former Tory party chairman and a close ally of the Prime Minister, said a referendum was not just a Euro-sceptic cause.

The issue deserved a campaign of public debate, which a referendum would allow, he said. But Sir Edward Heath. the former Prime Minister. and Hugh Dykes, Tory MP for Harrow East, denounced the idea.

Last night Sir James said that a referendum on a single currency would be an "empty gesture". He wanted a plebiscite that enabled the British people to choose between the original vision of a Europe of nations and the Maastricht blueprint for a superstate.

### Scottish attempt to revive all-women shortlists

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR women will today put up a strong fight for a policy of compulsory all-women shortlists, which they see as their only chance to achieve equal representation in a Scottish parliament. A passionate debate is ex-

pected this morning at the Scottish Labour Party conference in Edinburgh after signs that the party's pledge for 50 per cent representation of women in a Scottish parliament is in jeopardy. Women members are opti-

mistic that a strong signal in favour of women-only shortlists from Edinburgh will revive the debate at national level. The issue has been dropped since women-only shortlists were successfully challenged in January by two male party members at an industrial tribunal in Leeds. The National Executive Committee decided not to challenge the decision. Yesterday

for each double seat. The candidate with the most votes would get first choice of the two seats.

Speaking at a fringe meeting on International Women's Day. Carmen McAteer, regional officer for the Manufacturing Science and Finance union, said: "I have huge reservations about twinned constituencies both politically and legally.

gender balance in a Scottish parliament will not happen." She advocated amending the Sex Discrimination Act to exclude political narties Ann Pettifor, of the Labour Women's Action Committee,

fend women-only shortlists.

Unless there is some compul-

sory mechanism in place,

said that ignoring women would put the party at risk of The Labour Party has a long

history of denying women's rights and it is still happening. What we must do is demand women-only shortlists. If they want to challenge us they can take us to court." ☐ A resolution proposing a minimum wage of £4.15 an hour was deleated on the recommendation of the Scottish executive. The party leadership is keen to postpone any decision on a minimum wage

until after the election.



Tony Blair at the Scottish Labour Party conference yesterday with Catherine Taylor. She is Labour's youngest parliamentary candidate, at the age of 22, and will be standing for the constituency of Angus

# Leasehold law to be reformed, says Government

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE much-criticised leasehold system will be reformed in the summer, ministers announced in the Commons yesterday. A government Bill will be published to introduce the concept of commonhold, Jonathan Evans, the junior Lord Chancellor's Department Minister, told MPs.

This would give new rights to people in blocks of flats sharing services and facilities. Flat-owners would own the freehold of their homes while the "commonhold association" would own and manage common parts of the building.

The announcement came as Jacqui Lait, the Tory MP for Hastings and Rye, sought to get a second reading for her backbench Bill commonhold. Mr Evans said the Government agreed with Mrs Lait in principle but argued that more detailed legislation was needed and the Government would provide

this in a full Bill later this year. He was still speaking as time ran out for debate on Mrs Lait's measure, which goes back into the queue backbench Bills. But Mr Evans told her that the Government was determined to bring in legislation to introduce the legal concept of common-

holding. He said: "The Government is firmly committed to the implementation of commonhold. Proper legislation should be introduced as soon as possible."

Mr Evans said the move would allow homeowners in multi-occupier buildings to own the freehold interest in their homes and, at the same time, provide a management system for the whole development. He said homeowners resented the temporary nature of leasehold ownership and objected to paying ground rent when they owned property. Mrs Lait said the existing

system had raised endless problems with maintenance and repairs. Leaseholders had no control over the size of repair bills presented to them. found it difficult to purchase the freehold and disputes often led to an "intransigent standoff". She said: "There is a great deal of dissatisfaction with long leaseholding as a form of

property holding The leasehold commonhold, which existed in many other countries, was a practical alternative. She said: Commonhold is the missing part of English and Welsh property law."

# A more or less

senior Shadow Cabinet

may have to be

"twinning"

member said the policy for

amended in the light of the tribunal ruling. We will not

necessarily renege on our commitment in the longer

term but we might have to do

The present policy in Scot-

land is to achieve equal repre-

constituencies and choosing a

male and a female candidate

it in a different way.'

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TECHNOLOGY GONE SANE

# Wales's oldest priest urges Church to rediscover mission

THE oldest serving priest in Wales, who celebrates his ninetieth birthday tomorrow. believes the country should go down on its knees and confess to rid itself of its prevailing

The Ven Wallis Thomas, former Archdeacon of Meri-oneth, who describes himself as an extinct volcano, said that he regretted the falling numbers of churchgoers. "It is down to the Church to serve and bring in its congregations. I always believed a house-going parson made a churchgoing people."

Although the archdeacon officially retired in 1976. he still preaches regularly in and around the tiny North Wales parish of Llanelltyd, near Dol-gellau. Gwynedd, where he lives, and is one of the most sought-after public speakers

Tomorrow, elegant in ceremonial black, complete with gaiters, he is likely to upstage the Bishop of Bangor, the Rt Rev Barry Morgan, when he arrives in Llanelltyd to pay tribute to a man who has been in holy orders for 65 years, longer than the 49-year-old bishop's lifetime. Mr Thomas — who for once

is not preaching — will be greeted with champagne, cake, flowers and a banner across the village hall declar-"Archdeacon Wallis Thomas, 90 not out". The parish's affection is reflected in the acronym he is happy to use of himself: a "Wotcha" (wonderful old thing consider-

ing his age). He has always insisted on being close to his flock: "I was an inveterate visitor and I would go in the evening when I knew I would catch all the family at home," he said. "It was fine until I found myself competing with television and

Apart from a stint as secretary and chaplain to the Archbishop of Wales at St David's Cathedral in Cardiff North Wales. He was rector of Barmouth from 1946-66 and Archdeacon of Merioneth from 1959-76.

He never married, having taken a vow of celibacy, pledge which he came to regret. He has always been a favourite with the ladies; his clutch of admirers and the Llanelityd congregation are popularly known as the "Wallis Collection".

If he were to have his time over again, he says he would certainly take holy orders, but adds that he would want a wife "to share everything with". He declines to oppose the ordination of women priests, saying many parsons are already old women; regrets the decline of the Ecumenical Movement; and advises young priests to try to love their congregation - even

> At Your Service, Weekend, page 3

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR N&P MEMBERS

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The Ven Wallis Thomas, who will be 90 tomorrow

# Common goals that give Christians a modern role

HUGE billboards have in-vited us recently to watch football. The picture is of a stand filled with fans. The caption is "Songs of Praise". The advertising agency has clearly done its research and fiscovered that not only do more people watch this religious programme than watch football on television, but many more go to church than to stadiums every week.

This is not the only example of popular advertising borrowing positive images from religion to sell products. We have "born-again" cars, "evangelical" salesmen and multinational companies whose brochures boast a mission" statement. While the Church agonises over the divide between the divine and the pagan, the secular is without embarrassment stealing and dressing itself up in religion's clothes. Not only does this show that the traffic between the Church and the world is surprisingly two-way; it questions the alleged chasm between the two.

Unfortunately Christians suffer from the disease, which afflicts so many, of talking down themselves and their ability to engage with modern culture. We are told that there

Credo



James Jones

has been such a sea-change in people's thinking, that it is no longer possible to communicate to the post-modern world the timeless truths of the Christian faith. We are told that in this relativistic climate it is no longer possible to speak of moral certainties.

Yet in this decade the socalled post-modern world has behaved with surprising moral certainty. It has revealed a captivity to absolute truth. When condemning, for exam-ple, the barbarities of apartheid, the post-modernists did not say they were relatively wrong. They did not concede that moral issues of justice depended on how you were brought up. The oppression of one race by another was not. and is not relatively wrong. but absolutely wrong. Such was the worldwide recognition of these universal and absolute truths that a sovereign nation was forced to

The calling of the Christian (and in this they will find themselves accompanied by Iew and Muslim) is to help society to trace back its intu-itions to the source of these expressions of moral truth. who speaks through creation, history and conscience.

Christians are in danger of losing their nerve by failing to recognise that there is still much common ground be-tween the Church and the world. There is still a common law recognised in our civilisation. Indeed, no society believes that hatred is better than love, lying better than telling the truth, betrayal better than loyalty. Atheists and humanists subscribe to these values on the utilitarian grounds of social cohesion. Theists share them. Chrisrians affirm them and point to the One who has given them authority and clarity through the Bible and eloquence through the exemplary human model of Jesus Christ.

We in the Church have to find and preach a new apologetic. Instead of imagining a chasm we must reconnoitre the common ground that is still there.

There is a spiritual instinct in us all. Like the other instincts it does not come to the fore all the time. But when it does, the seeker at the end of the second millennium is still ready to hear the story and the 🏻 🎝 propositions that God so made, loves and forgives us that He sent His only son into the world to the end that all who believe in him should not die but live forever.

The evangelical meaning of such a mission statement from a born-again believer will not, believe, be entirely lost on this generation. Who knows, it may even one day evoke songs of praise on the

☐ The Right Rev James Jones is Bishop of Hull

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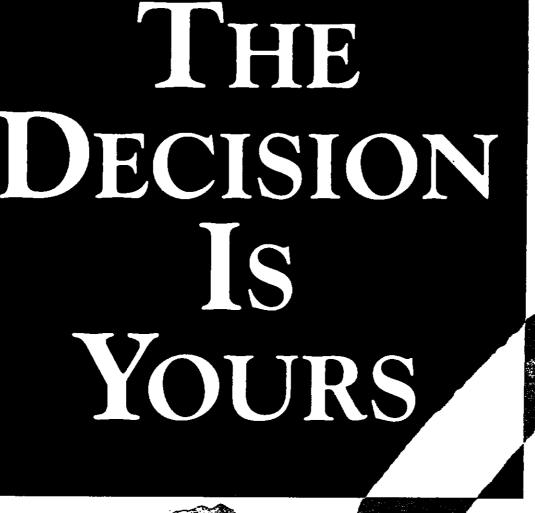
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# Execution squad 'massacred 1,200 Muslim civilians'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A FORMER Croat soldier in the Bosnian Serb army has confessed to participating in the massacre of Muslim civilians after the fall of Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia last July.

Drazen Erdemovic, 25, told Le Figaro of Paris that, as part of an eight-man execution squad, he personally shot and killed 70 Muslims. He added that the squad murdered at least 1,200 people in less than six hours near the town of Pilice on July 20. Mr Erdemovic, the first

alleged Bosnian Serb soldier to offer such a confession. reportedly agreed to give evidence to the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague in exchange for assurances that he would not be punished and would be allowed to settle in the West with his family. Last Sunday. however, hours after speaking to Renaud Girard of Le Figaro, he and another Bosnian Serb soldier, Radovan Kremenovic, were arrested by Belgrade police.

On Thursday the U.S. State Department and Richard Goldstone, the chief war crimes prosecutor, pressed President Milosevic of Serbia to hand the men over to the tribunal in The Hague. Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency. said Mr Erdemovic had been arrested as part of a war crimes investigation. If his claims prove correct, the Pilice massacre would be the worst single atrocity in Europe since the Second World War.

Mr Erdemovic, who is a native of Tuzla and has a half-Serbian wife, was one of a small number of Croats to serve in the Bosnian Serb army commanded by General Ratko Mladic. In January of last year he joined a special 80man unit known as the "Tenth Diversion Commando" with responsibility for "eliminating troublesome people" and "sab-otage behind enemy lines". The unit was led by Lieutenant Milorad Pelemis, who is suspected of involvement in



July 20, nine days after the fall of Srebrenica, Mr Erdemovic and seven other members of the unit were reportedly told to assemble at the military barracks in Zvornik. They were then taken to a state farm outside the village of Pilice. The soldiers were armed with Kalashnikovs and an M84 Soviet machinegun. A first busload of about 60

male Muslim prisoners, aged between 17 and 50, arrived soon afterwards. In groups of ten, they were brought out and shot by the Bosnian Serb squad, commanded by Brano Gojkovic. "When the men in the second group arrived in front of the dead bodies, they begged us 'Don't shoot us! Our families in Austria will send you money'." Mr Erdemovic said. "Some insulted us. Others chanted 'Allahu

akbah' (God is greatest)." He claimed that he turned to another member of the squad, a fellow Croat, and remarked "God knows, this is going to rebound on us one

"Shut up," his friend said. "If you don't, it will be our turn. We are only Croats." Mr Gojkovic, the squad leader who had reportedly consumed quantities of bran-

Some of the thousands of Bosnian Muslim women refugees from the fallen UN "safe area" of Srebrenica who staged a protest march in Tuzla yesterday to demand international action to find their menfolk, missing since the enclave was seized by Bosnian Serbs last July

"decided to use the machinegun to speed things up". Mr Erdemovic said. But, instead of being killed outright, many prisoners were merely wounded by the machinegun fire. "The injured begged us to finish them off," Mr Erdemovic said. The Serb bus drivers, according to Mr Erdemovic, "were terrified, but Gojkovic made them kill at least one Muslim each. That

way they wouldn't be tempted to confess later." The massacre, he said,

lasted from ten in the morning until 3.30 in the afternoon. "I didn't count them, but I would say around 1,200 Muslims were killed," he told Le Figaro. The victims were all reportedly men who, in order to stay with their families after the fall of Srebrenica, had not tried to escape but instead sought refuge with Dutch United Nations peacekeepers. They were then handed over to

the Bosnian Serb forces "with-

out a shot being fired", accord-

ing to Le Figaro. The women

and children were driven ovic's confession, Le Figaro's away towards Tuzia and the men were taken to Zvornik. Le Figaro's reporter said he met Mr Erdemovic and a Mr Kramenkovic, a Bosnian Serb

who was also a member of the Tenth Diversion Commando. last Saturday near Belgrade. The two had reportedly fallen out violently with Lieutenant Pelemis, the unit leader, and last month they decided to give tribunal and went into hiding. After hearing Mr Erdem-

reporter said he arranged to meet the two men the next missing morning and lent them his car ☐ The Hague: The war to return to Becej. When they did not appear as arranged, he travelled to Mr Kramenko-

and the telephone lines cut. Their present whereabouts are More than 7,000 people

vie's home. There he was told

that a police unit had arrived

from Belgrade at 3.00 that

morning to arrest the men.

The house had been searched

Srebrenica are still listed as

crimes tribunal yesterday confirmed that it had charged former police inspector Milan Martic, former leader of separatist Serbs in the Krajina region of Croatia, with war crimes and had issued an international warrant for his arrest. Mr Martic is charged with ordering rocket attacks on civilians in Zagreb on May 2 and 3 last year. (Reuter)

# Left-wing Mayors prepare to occupy Italy's seats of power

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN NAPLES

THE Italian elections next month will be the "last gasp" of the Old Guard before a "new ruling class" of younger. left-wing politicians comes to Rome from the provinces, according to Antonio Bassolino, the Mayor of Naples.

Signor Bassolino has been called the "Tony Blair of Italy" and a future Prime Minister. He predicted in an interview that the new leaders would be drawn from the directly elected Mayors of the big Italian cities, such as of whom are from the Left.

Speaking in his office overlooking the port of Naples. Signor Bassolino, 48, said Italy's Mayors derived their authority from the fact that they were directly elected for the first time in 1993. The new rules were part of a root-andbranch electoral reform intended to give Italian politics a fresh start after the 1992



Bassolino: time for new "ruling class" to rule

"Clean Hands" anti-corruption campaign, which swept the Christian Democrats from power after 40 years. But national elections have still produced unstable coalitions. In the grandeur of the Mayor's office, Signor Bassolino looks what he is: a wiry, energetic, working-class activist with a lifelong career in the local Communist Party machis now the Party of the Democratic Left and he has won widespread admiration for his successful campaign to clean up Naples, revive civic pride and improve its image nternationally.

He emphasises that he intends to remain Mayor until his term ends next year. "If they asked me to go to Rome right now, I would say 'No, thanks' ... but then we shall see." He believes the Centre-Left, led by Romano Prodi, has "a good chance" of winning the election on April 21.

But the centrist leaders, caretaker Prime Minister for the past 15 months, he said, are too closely associated with the "old Italy". Although Signor Dini "has governed well", the left-wing Mayors have shown "that they can run things better than Rome. We have forged a team of men who can govern the country, and who have earned its

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RUSSIA sent reinforcements

into the embattled city of

Grozny yesterday to suppress

a three-day offensive by Chechen rebels that has again

proved President Yeltsin's vul-

nerability to the war on his

Last night gunfire intens-ified as Russian troops mount-

ed "search and destroy" mis-

sions against rebel fighters.

Russian television showed

armoured vehicles, including

at least one tank, guarding the

headquarters of the Moscow-

installed Government in the

centre of the Chechen capital

to emphasise that the offensive

by lighters loyal to Dzhokhar

Dudayev, the separatist lead-er, had failed. It said troops

were combing the city to flush

A column of tanks and

armoured personnel carriers

came under heavy fire from

the rebels when it drove down

Lenin Avenue, the city's main

thoroughtare, which is only a

JUST days after his trium-

phant return to South Africa from Scotland with what he

claimed was the skull of a royal ancestor killed by British troops, Chief Nicholas

Xhosa tribal chiefs have

scized the skull which Chief

Gealeka claims is that of King

Hintsa, the Xhosa ruller killed

during the Sixth Frontier War in 1835, insisting that it must

undergo DNA testing to es-

King Xolilizwe Sigeau, Par-

amount Chief Maxhobaya-

kawuleza Sandile and about

30 other chiefs agreed to take the skull to the police mortu-

ary at Willowvale in the

Eastern Cape for safe-keeping

until tests are carried out.

They will meet representatives from the provincial gov-

ernment next week to arrange

for foreign scientists to exam-

have been guided to the skull

on a farm in Scotland by

But Mda Mda, a spokes-

man for the chiefs, told the gathering: "By taking the

head we are preventing him

from indulging in this circus.

displaying this head about as

he goes around. He claims to

be acting on behalf of the matter.'

visionary dreams. •

Chief Gealeka claimed to

tablish its authenticity.

Gealeka has lost his head.

out rebel gunmen.

southern rim.

Russia sends more

troops into Grozny

to flush out rebels

few hundred yards from the

centre and the former presi-

dential palace. Buildings

along the street are still in

ruins after the aerial bom-

bardment it suffered a year

which was still functioning

despite lack of running water.

received several dozen new

patients during the day suffer-

ing from bullet and shrapnel

wounds, according to the doctor. Timur Alkhazov. Most

were civilians and at least six

people had died the previous

1.500 fighters attacked Grozny

on Wednesday in a surprise

dawn raid that gave them

control of the southern half of

the city almost instantly. Tele-

vision reports said that 200

soldiers at a command post in

southern Grozny were still

surrounded by the separatists.

Adopting traditional Chechen

Xhosa nation, so he should be happy to hand it over." Chief Gcaleka, wearing a

skullcap with long pieces of beaded cloth, red tunic and

long socks, said: "I am not

very happy with the taking of

the skull without my permis-

sion. I have been suffering all

my life trying to get this head

find in Inverness took a new

turn this week when the

Xhosa King refused to sanc-

tion the planned burial of the

skull because, he said, it was

not the head of Hintsa. King Sigcau said Chief Gcaleka's

skull displayed a bullet hole

above the right ear and was

intact, whereas historical records indicated Hintsa was

shot at point-blank range

behind the left ear and his

The King has urged South Africans not to be fooled by

Chief Gcaleka and dismissed

his proud lineage claims.

Chief Gcaleka insists, howev-

er, that he is the great-great

Chief Gcaleka has called on

President Mandela to inter-

vene. But the President's

spokesman said: "The Presi-

dent feels the Xhosa chiefs are

quite capable of handling the

head was shattered.

nephew of Hintsa.

The controversy over the

The Russians estimate that

day, he said.

Xhosa chiefs end

'circus' by seizing

skull for DNA test

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

Grozny's main hospital.

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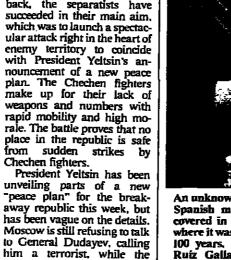
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ers appeared to be retreating

before the Russians had time to inflict heavy casualties.

Chechen fighters.

general refuses to talk to the

pro-Moscow Chechen Gov-

Even if they are pulling



An unknown painting by the Spanish master Goya, discovered in a disused room, where it was locked away for 100 years, delights Alberto Ruiz Gallardón, Madrid's regional president. The painting was found by work-men renovating a Madrid

### Goya lost souls see light

government building ten days ago. It was propped against a wall in a small room where gifts to local

government officials were

stored. Museum curators

say the painting depicts the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary and souls in

How the 8ft by 6ft painting

room in Madrid's regional government headquarters is a mystery. Inscribed on the back of the canvas is a message ordering its resto-ration at Madrid General Hospital in 1865. It is thought to have been paint-

ed in the 1780s. (AP)

### **Springbok** emblem 'a sign of racist past'

By INICO GILMORE

PLANS by South Africa's National Sports Council to drop the Springbok emblem from the national rugby jersey, despite calls for its retention from the country's best known rugby supporter, President Mandela, have met a

storm of protest. A commission of inquiry found the Springbok "deeply offensive" to many because of past associations with racial discrimination, racial dominance and privilege. It recommended it be replaced with the King Protea, the flower al-ready used by the cricket

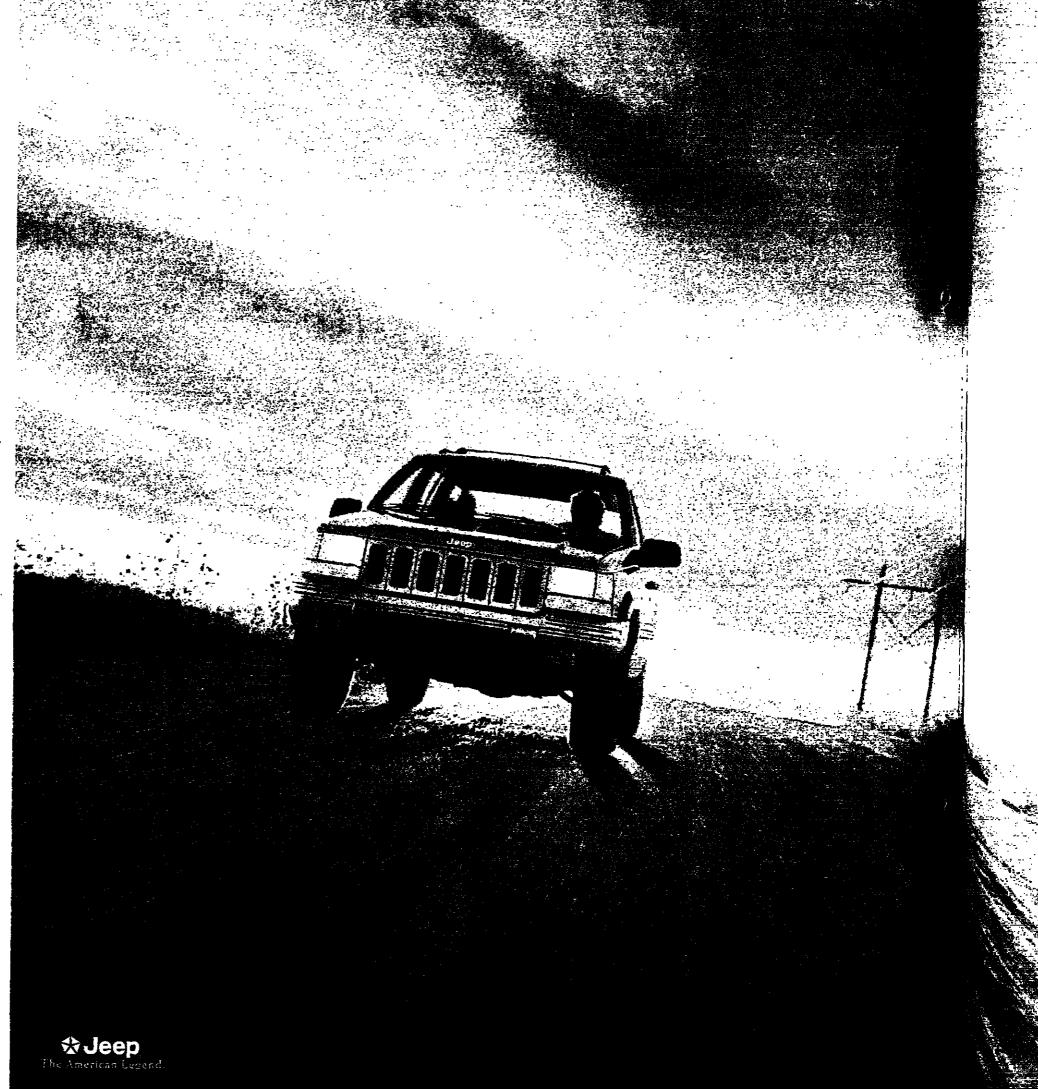
team\_ To the horror of thousands of rugby fans the recommendation is expected to be ratified later this month. The team's symbol since 1905 could disappear before the world champions play Australia and New Zealand later this year.

Only last year Mr Mandela

admitted he had supported the

Springboks' opponents until

England team, page 45



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Springbok
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MARCH 9 1996

# THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996

### Iran voters pass judgment on economic chaos Clinton takes lead By MICHAEL THEODOULOU

IN NICOSIA AND MICHAEL BINYON DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

PRESIDENT RAFSANJANI warned Iranians to brace themselves for a propaganda war with the United States and Israel over allegations of terrorism amid voting for a new parliament yesterday.

American pressure to isolate Iran for alleged involve-ment in the wave of suicide bombings in Israel would backfire, he said, after casting his vote at a Tehran mosque.

The US and Israel are urging Europe and Japan to join Washington's efforts to choke the crisis-hit Iranian economy, a prospect Hojato-leslam Rafsanjani must dread as he looks for foreign investment for his industrialisation programmes.

The economy has been the main issue in a low-key campaign which has pitted conservative clerics promising to retain state subsidies against modernisers who back the President's free-market reforms. These have proved painful for many Iranians.

European diplomats in Tehran said more people voted than had been expected. Iranians can vote out a Government but not the system of rule: all candidates for the



Iranian women gather around a ballot box at a shrine, in the holy city of Qom, to martyrs of the war with Iraq

270-seat parliament were screened by a clerical body which rejected more than 30 per cent of the 5,000 hopefuls. Nothing has eroded lovalty to the Islamic regime more

However, Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani has surrounded himself with Western-educated technocrats who are at loggerheads with the poorly educatthan its mishandling of the ed religious apparatchiks often promoted to top posts in Khomeini once dismissed as a

subject fit only for donkeys.

Factionalism has given rise to paralysis and confusion in Tehran, of which the response to the Hamas suicide bomb-

ings in Israel is symptomatic. The official Iranian news agency, controlled by hardliners in the Islamic Guidance Ministry, hailed the bomb-

ings as "divine retribution". But the Foreign Ministry nied any involvement in, or support for, incidents in "occupied Palestine", which it said were rooted in the policies and practices of the

# in Middle East anti-terror drive

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON will attend a hastily arranged summit meeting of world leaders on Wednesday in an attempt to isolate supporters of the Hamas bombing campaign in Israel and restore some momentum to the Middie East peace process.

The White House, designating the meeting "a summit of the peacemakers", said the US had been urged by Israel and Jordan to sponsor the joint talks at Sharm el-Sheikh, an Egyptian resort on the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula. Mike McCurry, the White House press secretary, said: "The summit will discuss ways to enhance Arab-Israeli peace, to promote security and to combat terror . . . We expect that it will be a day of reaffirmation, both for the

peace process and for the need to do everything governments can do in the international community to combat terror." According to diplomatic sources, about 30 leaders have been invited. The guest list includes President Chirac of France, King Husain of Jordan and President Yeltsin of Russia, It was uncertain yesterday whether John Major had been invited, and whether President Assad of Syria would attend. But Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Qatar were some of the Arab states likely

to participate.
The idea for the Sinai summit had been broached by President Mubarak of Egypt and was strongly backed by Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, in a telephone call to Mr Clinton on Monday. King Husain of Jordan also encouraged American involvement when he met Mr Clinton at the White House this week. Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was said to have given his backing.
The Administration hopes

that the gathering, and Mr Clinton's personal participation, will not merely send a universal signal of condemnation of the four suicide bomb-ings in Israel, but will strengthen the political stand-ing of Mr Peres at home.

The summit is also intended to demonstrate an international commitment to isolate nations that support terrorism, and to muster aid for Mr Arafat on the basis that he is trying to break up terrorist rings in the region. Despite a growing sense of dissatisfac-tion among Jews in America over Mr Arafat's apparent inability to deliver peace. Mr Clinton said the PLO chairman had "made some real efforts" to curb the violence.

The invitation to Mr Assad

position. He could refuse to attend, in which case his country will probably remain on the State Department list of nations which sponsor terrorism and his campaign to persuade Israel to return the Golan Heights to Syrian control will be undermined. He could attend and make no commitments, or he could participate and commit himself to crushing known terrorist cells in Damascus, which he has always avoided.

The White House and State Department had been considering the idea all week but, as recently as Wednesday, felt there had to be a productive outcome if the summit were to proceed. Finally, it was decided that the impact of Mr Clinton's presence would be "a physical statement of solidariwith the Israelis".

Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, will stay in the region to exploit what Washington hopes will be new momentum arising from the conference.



Mubarak: broached

### **Red Sea resort is** a haven of hope

By Christopher Walker

SHARM el-Sheikh, described in its leading tourist hotel's brochure as "our sunny Paradise", is far removed from the teeming slums and refugee camps that have bred Islamic terrorism. Yet world leaders will gather at the resort next al anti-terrorist conference.

Perched on the Red Sea's shores and coral reefs. 300 miles from Cairo on the southernmost tip of the Sinai peninsula, Sharm was chosen because of its relative security and its symbolism as a place where Middle East peace

could be seen to work. Captured by Israel in the 1967 Six-Day War, it was returned to Egypt as part of the "land for peace" deal that led

attempts to cement lasting stability in the region. Before its seizure by Israeli

troops, it had been neglected by Cairo. Since its return, it has blossomed into one of the most expensive and imaginatively developed resorts in the

With its gleaming new international casino (out of bounds to Egyptians), palm-fringed beaches filled with scantily clad European sunseekers. and hedonistic atmosphere, the resort is light-years from the fundamentalist teachings and social ills that have en-.couraged groups such as Ha-

mas and Islamic Jihad. "Charming Sharm", Egyptian tour operators call it. is a good example of peace to the Camp David peace working: Israeli tourists are treaty in 1979, setting the model for the more recent among the visitors, flights arriving direct from Tel Aviv.

### Oldest church in Christendom comes to light in Lebanon

FROM PENNY YOUNG IN TYRE

ARCHAEOLOGISTS in Lebanon say they have uncovered the site of the earliest church known in Christendom. It is hoped the discovery will give a boost to the country's tourist industry, decimated by years

of civil war. The excavations have been going on secretly in Tyre for the past few months. There are reports that gold crowns. plates and cups engraved with crosses, an altar and a passageway which would have connected the church to nearby buildings, have been

The Cathedral of Bishop Paulinus was built in the 4th century in the port city of Tyre in ancient Phoenicia, now southern Lebanon, after the Roman Emperor. Constantine the Great, issued the ordinance of Milan on June 13, AD 313. This legalised the Christian religion and restored confiscated lands and

property.

The Christian community in Tyre must have been quick off the mark because shortly afterwards, the historian Eusebius of Caesarea attended the opening of Paulinus's church and wrote down his speech, which included a description of the church's structure and furnishings, for posterity. It is the earliest known account of a Christian church, although Eusebius makes clear it was built on the site of an even earlier one destroyed during the Christian persecution. He describes the strong defensive walls enclosing the site with a magnificent porch facing east. covered walks, fountains in which visitors could wash. decorated gates, columns, brass decorations, wooden screens, marble pavements and a ceiling made from cedars of Lebanon.

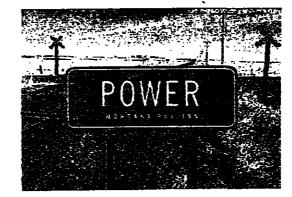
It was the finest church in Phoenicia, he wrote. "I deem it superfluous to describe here the length and breadth of the edifice and its brilliant beauty. No words can express the magnitude or the dazzling appearance of the workman-

The site is tucked away in a back street in the centre of modern Tyre, surrounded by new concrete apartment and office blocks. It had been earmarked by a developer but antiquities experts sought permission to dig first. Visitors to the site can see the remains of the columns, plinths and marble floors, and it is just yards away from one of the largest Roman hippodromes in the





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# Chinese missiles target elections in fearful Taiwan

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

CHINA launched three ballistic missiles into the seas off Taiwan yesterday, spreading alarm across East Asia and beyond, as Chinese leaders pointedly warned an increasingly fearful Taiwanese population against moving towards independence.

One of the M9 surface-tosurface missiles, which have a range of 372 miles, landed in waters just 20 nautical miles off the important northeast port of Keelung, near the Taiwanese capital of Taipei, and another 30 nautical miles off the busy southwestern port of Kaohsiung.

of Kaohsiung.

The missiles apparently had unarmed warheads and none has so far caused damage, all landing within designated target areas. A lighthouse-keeper on a headland near Keelung said he heard the first missile crashing like an "exploding tyre" into the ocean soon after midnight.

midnight.

There was immediate international condemnation, with the United States calling the tests "provocative and reckless" and Britain joining the chorus of protest, which some countries said could threaten Asian stability. Britain said it was concerned by the firings so close to Taiwan. "We believe this will further heighten tension in the region," a spokesman said. "There is a real possibility of a miscalculation leading to confrontation"

tation."

In Peking, President Jiang Zemin said China would not halt its struggle to reunify with Taiwan until the leaders of the island abandoned their bid for independence. "Our struggle will not stop so long as Taiwan authorities do not cease activities to split the motherland,"

the official Xinhua news agency quoted Mr Jiang as saying. "During a recent period of time, new complexities have emerged in relations across the Taiwan Strait and they

time. new complexities have emerged in relations across the Taiwan Strait and they have aroused great concern among people of the whole nation, said Mr Jiang, who in the past has reportedly been criticised by senior military figures for being soft on Taiwan.

Qian Qichen, the Foreign Minister, told the 21 million people of the island, which

## US warship to watch exercise

Tokyo: The aircraft carrier USS Independence, based in Japan, has been dispatched from its home port near here to waters near Okinawa and Taiwan for a week to monitor the Chinese missile tests near the island, NHK radio said. The report said a task force centred on the aircraft carrier would also study the performance of the Chinese M9 missiles.

Peking regards as a renegade province despite the fact it has gone its own way for almost 50 years, not to panic over the "military exercises," but spoke of a "real disaster" if they supported independence. China has never given up the option of reunifying with Taites his form if a consequent

option of reunifying with Taiwan by force if necessary.

Peking has said that the missile firings, which are believed to come from near a base at Nanking, would continue until March 15, eight

days before the first direct

presidential elections in Taiwan. China has accused Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui, whose Nationalist Party formally supports a unified China. of secretly seeking independence. Mr Lee says he favours eventual reunifica-

more democratic China.

The missile tests are also designed, envoys say, to influence the result of the elections, drawing support away from President Lee to politicians

tion, but in the framework of a

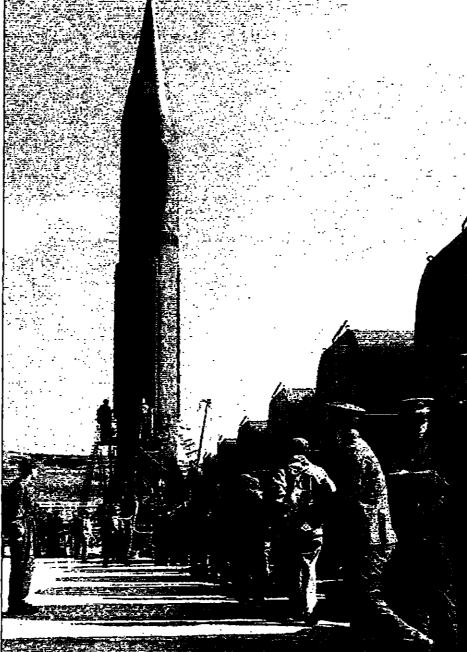
favouring unity with China.

The spectre of Taiwanese independence haunts Peking, which was furious last summer when Mr Lee made a private, high-profile visit to America, and has criticised Washington for giving him a visa and also for continued US arms sales to Taiwan.

Japan, meanwhile, said it had sent a large patrol boat to the area to ensure the safety of maritime navigation. In Taipei, there was a run on banks as Taiwanese withdrew savings in American dollars. After some clients pulled out their life savings, some banks limited withdrawals to \$2,000. Elsewhere, people were reportedly stocking up on tinned food in case China imposed a blockade of the island.

Taiwanese defence sources believe a force of 150,000 troops has built up in Fujian province opposite Taiwan as part of planned manoeuvres likely to include beach assaults — a hint of an invasion, though military experts say China has not enough ships to launch a full-scale seaborne assault on Taiwan in the near future.

Fujian officials this week barred correspondents from visiting the frontline province



Chinese troops take part in a missile drill before the current test firings began

record in rocketry is not a

until the end of March. On the Taiwan side, there were few tourists yesterday on Matsu island, uncomfortably near the mainland.

Most military analysts, both in Peking and in Taiwan, believe China has no short-term intention of invading Taiwan, but no one is quite certain how Taiwan itself will

respond if its territory is hit by to see if we have courag a missile — and China's attempt to make us afraid

particularly good one.

There was also the possibility that an incident in the straits, such as between naval vessels of both sides, could escalate rapidly out of control. "The situation is very volatile," said one foreign military attache in Peking.

attaché in Peking.

Appeals for calm by President Lee, who was yesterday campaigning for the forthcoming elections, have been heeded to some extent by institutions, if not by ordinary citizens. Mr Lee called the tests "just a show" and told people not to worry. "It is a test

to see if we have courage, an attempt to make us afraid, just a bluff," he said, adding: "The bullet is empty."

For its part, America has adopted a posture of "strategic ambiguity", so as to keep both China and Taiwan guessing. "If Peking feels the US won't enter the fray, they may escalate the confrontation, but they don't know the real American position, so are likely to remain cautious," said one envoy. He added: "Part of the reason for these missile firings is an effort by China to test American resolve. Of course, any future American intervention would have incalculable

## Island caught between two states of mind

By MARC WELLER

aiwan looks like a state, talks like a state, acts like a state; but, according to the formal position of most governments around the world, it is most definitely not a state. This paradox strains common sense and logic just as much as it poses a dilemma for the authorities in Taipei.

authorities in Taipei.

When the defeated Nationalists under Chiang Kaishek withdrew to the island of Formosa in 1949, they created the fiction that they were the only government for all of China.

tor all of China.

To this day Taiwan maintains that there is one China, the old Republic of China, which is exclusively represented by Taipei. However, in a recent policy shift, Taiwan now accepts that its jurisdiction does not extend to mainland China, which is under de facto administration from Paking

Therefore, Taipei already claims to represent an independent state. The controversy with the People's Republic of China relates to the prospect that it might abandon the "One China" policy hitherto shared by both entities and declare itself independent as Taiwan.

Taipei was able to maintain its position while it could rely on unambiguous support from Washington, including the US Seventh Fleet. However, since the 1950s more and more states have recognised the People's Republic and its claim over all of China.

Peking insisted that such recognition had to be coupled with a severing of diplomatic relations with Taiwan, which it merely considers to be one of its 22 provinces.

When President Nixon

met Chairman Mao Tsetung in Peking in 1972, he confirmed that "there is but one China and Taiwan is part of China". On January 1, 1979, the

White House "transferred"

recognition from Taipei to Peking and terminated its defence treaty with Taiwan, while pledging continued resistance to "any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardise the security of the people on Taiwan".

This continuing relationship is difficult to explain in legal terms. If there is only one China which includes Taiwan, and if Peking is the only Government in China, then it would be fully entitled to test missiles as close to the shore of one of its provinces as it wishes, or to assert its authority over the rebellious territory by force

of arms if necessary.

In fact, not even the United States appears to have argued strongly that the threat or use of force against Taiwan constitutes a violation of international law.

nstead, the Washington Administration had indicated that such "provocative and reckless" action would conflict with the political commitment to a peaceful reunification of China, and indeed would amount to a threat to the region's stability.

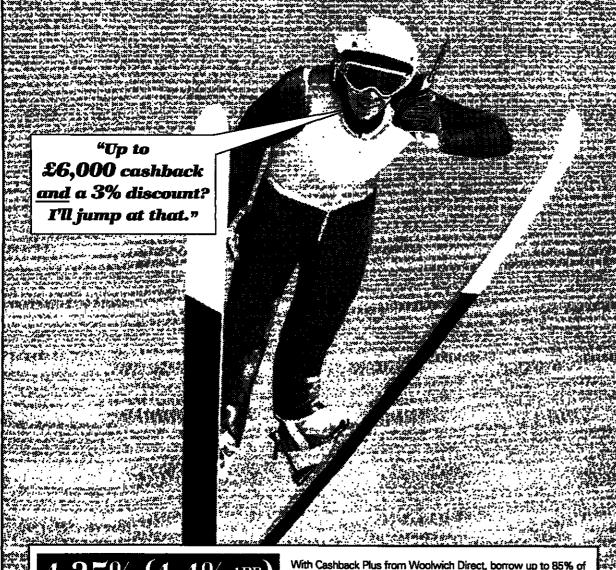
This position overlooks that Taiwan has administered a defined territory and population independently for nearly half a century.

It is still recognised by about 30 states as the Republic of China and maintains informal relations with an even larger number of governments.

whether one considers
Taiwan the legal successor
of the Republic of China, or
as the sole, effective authority in Taiwan, it has the right
to a separate legal existence
undisturbed by threats of
force, if it so chooses.

Marc Weller is an assistant director of studies at the Centre for International Studies in the University of Cambridge, where he





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request for immunity from

prosecution, for what it is

worth, to the authorities who

investigated the Kennedy and

King deaths in Dallas. Los Angeles and Memphis.

Mr Bowden, who once did contract work for the CIA.

elaborates on Oliver Stone's

theory in the film JFK. To hear

him tell it, the CIA, FBI.

Mafia. world financiers, war-

mongers and certain White

House aides were all secretly

involved in a giant cabal to

keep America's defence indus-

Among their other misdeeds,

so the theory goes, the plotters

arranged the death of Mary Jo

Kopechne at Chappaquiddick

to keep Senator Edward Ken-

volumes and, appropriately,

copies of Paranoia magazine.

tries humming profitably.

# US museum offers \$1m to lure 'real' killers of Kennedy

FROM IAN BRODIE IN DALLAS

JUST up the street from the spot where President Kennedy was shot, a museum is offering a reward of \$1 million (£653,000) for the "real killers" to come forward.

The Conspiracy Museum is devoted to uncovering what its private sponsors believe was an over-arching plot linking the three assassinations of President Kennedy, his brother Robert, and Martin Luther King with a collection of other foul deeds.

The museum has declared this to be the "Year of the Canary". It will pay the reward to anyone who is prepared to "sing" about the alleged plots. In a matter of days, 118 people have applied. All but four have been eliminated, including those who were not even born when



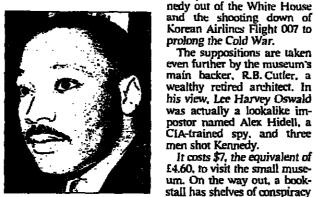
Kennedy: seen as victim

Kennedy was killed in Dallas in November 1963. The four will be carefully evaluated, said Tommy Bowden, director of the Conspiracy Museum.

He hopes to find a greybeard out there, perhaps in failing health, whose conscience is gnawing at him. This person, perhaps a former CIA agent, must be eager to make a clean breast of the cover-up. Mr Bowden said. He explained that payment

of the money, donated from private sources, would depend on verification of the claimant's information There is, of course, the slight problem that anyone admit-

This professional war machine saw the Kennedys and Dr King as a threat. ting guilt would be unable to spend the million dollars on account of being arrested. To try to avoid this misfortune, Mr Bowden has sent a written



King: theorists link his

### **Animal** activists score in sled race

FROM JAMES BONE

THE world's most famous dog-sled race was plunged into controversy this week when a popular five-time champion was expelled for violating a new "dead-dog" rule imposed at the insistence of animal rights groups.

Rick Swenson was disquali-fied from the LISO-mile trans-Alaska Iditarod after losing a three-year-old female husky named Ariel as his team passed the Yentna River about 100 miles into the race. The expulsion of the veter-an "musher", as the dog

racers are known, provoked howls of protest from fans critical of the new rule adopted to protect race-dogs from overwork. The "dead dog" rule, instituted after two dogs died in last year's race, requires the disqualification of any musher who loses a dog unless the animal dies from an "external" cause, such as a collision with a moose.

Other contestants said Mr Swenson was known for the care he lavished on his dogs, and noted that he had never lost one in 20 years of competing in the Iditarod.

"He's the best dog-care person I've ever been around, and anybody here will tell you the same thing," said Charlie Boulding, another Iditarod contestant. "For it to bite him shows it's a screwy rule."

Mr Swenson's dog died as his sled ploughed through flood water on top of the frozen Yentna River. Mr



Racers urging their teams on in the 1,150-mile trans-Alaska Iditarod this week

Swenson, who was in fifth place, tried unsuccessfully to revive the dog for 15 minutes. Judges reluctantly disqualified him even though a post-mortem examination failed to establish the cause of death. "I can tell you, it was a gut-

wrenching decision for every-one involved," Matt Desalernos, president of the Iditarod Trail Committee, wrote in the local newspaper.

Mr Swenson declared that he would not race in the

the world." he said on Alaskan radio. "The Iditarod has become a circus. A lot of people who don't understand mushing are running the

### Small-time crooks fill prisons of California

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA'S draconiun "three strikes and you're out" law has led to life sentences for twice as many non-violent drug offenders as for rapists, murderers and kidnappers combined, a new report said.

Designed to deter violent criminals or take them off the streets for life, the law has instead clogged the state's prisons with small-time marijuana smokers,

In the two years since it was passed on a wave of public anger over violent crime, the three-strikes" law has meant life in prison for 192 marijuana users who would previously have served little or no time. In the same period, 40 convicted murderers, 25 rapists and 24 kidnappers have been sentenced to life.

The figures were obtained from the California Department of Corrections, which runs the prisons, but were ignored in its own progess report released by Pete Wilson, the Governor, at a press

conference last week. The law had resulted in the jailing of 15,300 repeat offenders. Governor Wilson said. He was seeking support for a bond issue to raise \$2.2 billion (£1.43 billion) that the state

needs to build more prisons.

It fell to San Francisco's liberal-leaning Centre on Juvenile and Criminal Justice to point out that the new law is having a greater impact on non-violent than violent crime. The group also reported that 43 per cent of those sentenced under the "three-strikes" pro-vision were black, even though blacks make up only 7 per cent of the state's popula-tion. "If one were writing a law to deliberately target blacks, one could scarcely have done it more effectively than three strikes'." Vincent Schiraldi, author of the rival report told The New York Times.

The state now spends more on prisons than it does on higher education, and one man, Jerry Dewayne Williams, is serving a life sentence for stealing a slice of pizza.

# Dole bandwagon rolls on as rivals rebuff appeal to pull out

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

DRIVEN by the powerful juggernaut of the Republican Party, Robert Dole routed his competitors in New York and yesterday swaggered towards the "Super Tuesday" primaries with an iron grip on the presidential nomination.

Mr Dole, surmounting a vigorous challenge from Steve Forbes, the

Contract to the Contract of th

multimillionaire publisher, took all 93 delegates in the richest prize yet of the primary season. Pat Buchanan, the conservative commentator who had plagued the Kansas senator in earlier contests, was left with just 14 per cent of the vote.

Despite his most convincing victory, the eleventh consecutive primary in the past six days that Mr Dole has won, there was no evidence that his rivals would with-

draw soon from the race. Entreaties from Mr Dole that both Mr Forbes and Mr Buchanan unite behind him to concentrate their efforts against the re-election campaign of Presi-dent Clinton provoked unfriendly fire from both camps.

Mr Forbes, who had spent \$1 million (£653,000) to overcome the obtacles put up by the New York Republican Party to keep him off the ballot, said the Dole triumph was a

tribute to party machinery rather than message. Mr Buchanan, who had spent only four hours in New York and found little support among an electorate which views his candidature as too extreme, said he was not concerned about the loss but had turned all his efforts to the South, Nonetheless, both candidates left the Empire State weakened by a result that had proved the power of Mr Dole's organisation.

Despite a low turnout, Republican Party workers under the whip of Senator Alfonse D'Amato, the local senator, had driven voters to the polls through ice storms and snow to ensure a victory beyond doubt.

In a victory speech, Mr Dole turned his guns on the Clinton White House. "In January, Bill Clinton spoke to us from the White House and said: The era of big government is over.' Tonight New

York spoke to the White House and said Yes, and the era of Bill Clinton is about to be over as well'." Mr Dole still has a long way to go

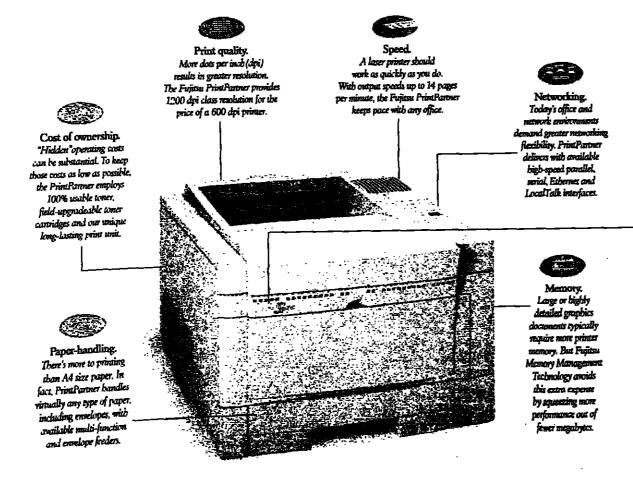
rule had been repealed.

There are other dog races in

if he is to offer a solid alternative to the status quo in Washington. Polls from New York showed that at least half of the electorate agreed with Mr Buchanan's refrain that the ageing senator had no new ideas and Mr Dole lost the battle for self-identified independents to Mr Forbes.

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COMPUTERS, COMMUNICATIONS. MICROELECTRONICS

# Marriages in Germany are affairs of state

THE notion of a First Lady has been catching on in Germany Hillary Clinton demonstrated, with mixed success, that a personal political partnership can

somehow complement and keep pace with marriage. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, already cranking up his election machine for 1998, has been attending buffet-guzzling parties to his wife. The picture album is supposed to flaunt their commitment to a united Germany and, presumably, to each other. It is not quite a Helmut-and-Hannelore election ticket, but there is no doubt about his wife's raised profile. Early rumours about trouble in the Kohl marriage have long since lost their

currency Herr Kohl's rivals are having problems displaying similar family bliss. Oskar Lafontaine, the Social Democrat leader, a tubby bon viveur, has been publicly taken to task by Magret, his former wife, a



sculptress. Their marriage collapsed under the weight of his various love affairs. Oskar is now married to a bottle-blonde Social Democrat researcher and his turbulent love life does not seem to have affected his standing in the opinion polls.

The real test of Germany's changing manners came this week, however, when the man most likely and most determined to unseat Herr Kohl, separated from his wife. Gerhard Schröder, the Social Democrat prime minister of Lower Saxony, has been married to Hiltrud - known as Hillu - for II years and they have become darlings of the media. It was the first major attempt to personalise German politics, to win elections through tabloid celebrity - and it

Kohl finds it's good to talk

Berlin and Bonn for the most sensitive of contracts: the installation of Helmut Kohl's personal telephone exchange when he moves his office to the German capital.

Herr Kohl rules by telephone (though he has denounced the mobile phone as "a scourge of humanity") and his bill runs to well over £300,000 a year. The French company, Alcatel, installed his current system in Bonn, but there are ambitious new plans for the

Berlin Chancellery which will resemble a giant Orwellian eye.

Herr Kohl's most devastating phone call in almost 14 years of office was not to superpower leaders but to the German astronaut, Ulf Merbold, circling the Earth in a Russian spacecraft. The long conversation sucked most of the juice out of the craft's batteries. The astronaut had to pay the price of Herr Kohl's call: for two days they lived in darkness and icy cold until they could stabilise the ship.

seems to have failed. Hillu, now 47, first met her husband on the election trail; she was the wife of a policeman and a passionate leftwinger. They became lov ers and she married Herr Schröder, be-

coming his third wife. Over the past four years, Hillu has become a fixture on the media landscape. She appears on game and talk shows once memorably blowing soap bubbles with her husband - and only days before the marriage broke up was given three pages of a glossy magazine to explain her regetarian philosophy.

Herr Schröder, a 51-year-old former student radical who has the look of a battered boxer, seems to have found it all quite charming. Some analysts say that he captured his absolute majority for the Social Democrats in Lower Saxony only with the help of his wife. But now Herr Schröder has fallen for a blonde 32-year-old journalist.

Insiders believe the politician crumbled under the strain of living with his strong-willed wife. Because she opposed the live transport of animals, she decided that only vegetarian food should be served at home. Herr Schröder took to creeping to the local pub for a schnitzel. or packing in sausages at election

Hillu disapproved of many of his male friends. His wife and her two teenage daughters nicknamed him "Gerda", a woman's name; a family joke that began to smart. If he drank too much. Hillu insisted that he sleep in the spare room.

The critical question is whether Herr Schröder can keep alive his hopes of winning the Chancellery.



Gerhard Schröder looks on as Hiltrud, his third wife, blows bubbles on a television show

The Social Democrats say they will decide only in the spring of 1998 who should be the official challenger to Herr Kohl. Plainly, Herr Lafontaine would like to have a go, but he failed once before.

Herr Schröder is the strongest alternative. Germany has never had a thrice-divorced leader before, but fellow Social Democrat Willy Brandt was divorced and proved to be electable. The balance of sympathy in the tabloid press seem to favour Herr Schröder, if only because Germans regard it as a

basic human right to eat sausages. One thing is for sure: Herr Kohl is poorly placed to exploit the embarrassment of his rival. The Chancellor's top security co-ordinator, Bernd Schmidbauer, recently left his wife to move in with his

### 'Euro-fighters' engage in battle of the sexes

A STRANGE linguistic debate has erupted here. Is the euro — the new European single currency - masculine, feminine or neuter. Der Euro would give the future currency a more manly feel, a sense of strength. But the purists say nouns ending in o should be neuter: das auto. das radio. das bistro. And the mark is feminine, so perhaps the euro which hopes to replace the

mark should stay the same way. This is just one of the headaches facing the PR managers, dubbed Euro-fighters, who are working out ways of seiling the euro name. But they have been given a budget

of less than £10 million, barely enough to launch a new yoghurt. The Euro-fighters may be in

luck. German zoologists have learnt that there is a species of Australian kangaroo called Euro. And it seems to fit the bill as a cuddly, lovable symbol of the new European currency.
But Brehms Animal Life. the

classic zoological reference book. may make the money men think twice. The Euro, it says, "is intellectually underdeveloped. Even the sheep is more clever. Everything unexpected throws the

### Catalans play hard to get with Aznar

FROM EDWARD OWEN

THE cartoon in yesterday's La Vanguardia, the Barcelona newspaper, showed José Maria Aznar, leader of the conservarive Popular Party, starting to chisel away at a block of ice that contained an implacable Jordi Pujol, the Catalan nationalist leader.

If Senor Aznar is to govern Spain after his slim victory -20 seats short of a majority in last Sunday's elections, he must have the support of Senor Pujol and the votes of his deputies in the Madrid

With most Spaniards wondering who is running their country after the Socialists' defeat. Rodrigo Rato. nominated by Señor Aznar to negotiate a solution, reported little progress after his first

We can say that two questions have been tackled," said Señor Rato, who hopes to be Finance Minister in a Popular Party Government, "the gen-eral committees of the congress and the senate, and the search for a majority that will support a new Government. With respect to the first, things have been more concrete than with the second."

After four days of talks with Catalan, Basque, Canary Islands and Valencia nationalists, as well as the Socialists, Señor Rato said there had been consensus which gave hope for a deal.

There was an ample agreement, more than a parliamentary majority, on European policies, the welfare state, the development of the autonomous regions and with regard to terrorism," he said.

He added that the Popular Party did not rule out any formula, the main consideration being maximum stability for the country.

Señor Pujol has indicated

that the Catalans, with 16 seats, would give the Popular Party "governability", but not join a coalition.

The Basques, with five seats, were also conciliatory, but both will demand key

concessions. The Popular Party has until \$ the end of this month to form a Government with the vital investiture vote for Señor. Aznar expected at the beginning of April.

## **Kiev admits new Chernobyl accident**

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN KIEV

UKRAINIAN officials revealed yesterday that an accident occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear plant last November, just weeks before Ukraine signed an aid deal with the West for the plant's closure.

A malfunction of the cooling system caused an increase in the radiation background in the Number One reactor on November 27, said Sergei Semeriyets. spokesman for Gosatomnadzor, the country's nuclear regulatory agency.

No one was reported injured in the

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incident, which was recorded as Level I on the international scale of nuclear accidents. Mr Semenyets said the problem was rectified the same day and the radiation level returned to normal.

The Chernobyl nuclear plant was the site of the world's worst commercial nuclear disaster, a devastating explosion in 1986 at the Number Four reactor.

Minor accidents occur frequently at Ukraine's ageing nuclear reactors but officials usually report them immediately. The November accident was the worst at Chernobyl since a fire in 1991 forced the closure of the Number Two reactor. It

came as Ukrainian officials were nearing the end of negotiations with the Group of Seven industrialised nations on an aid package for closing the plant.
On December 20, the group signed an

agreement promising \$2.3 billion (£1.47 billion) in grants and credits to Ukraine for the shutdown, including the completion of two new nuclear reactors and social benefits for employees of the plant. Gosatomnadzor had argued against

the closure, saying that Chernobyl has seen the fewest accidents of all the country's nuclear plants in recent years and supplies 7 per cent of its energy.

### Poland jails state torturer

Warsaw: A Polish court yesterday sentenced a former official of the Communist state security service to nine years in prison for torturing prisoners during the Stalinist era (Patricia Koza writes).

The trial of Adam Humer. 79. and 14 other men, all elderly, originally began in September 1993, but was continually postponed because of illness and the death of two

### Aids gang thief dies in Turin hospital Turin: A member of the "Aids

gang", a trio who brazenly robbed banks without disguise, knowing that they could not go to jail under Italian law because they were terminally ill, has died in a Turin nospital.

Newspapers reported yesterday that Ferdinando Attanasio, 38, died at the northern city's Amedeo di Savoia hospital. For months, Aids had

paradoxically protected them." said *La Stampa* of the gang. "Now the sickness is taking its revenge."

The trio repeatedly robbed banks in full view of security cameras, knowing their illness protected them from prison. The Government modified the law last year to give judges discretion to imprison criminals in the terminal stages of illness. (Reuter)

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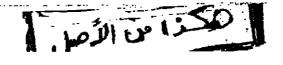
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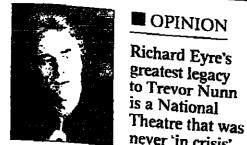
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OPINION Richard Eyre's

greatest legacy

is a National

never 'in crisis'

to Trevor Nunn

■ THEATRE I

A quirky South African twist on the Robinson Crusoe story comes from Theatre de Complicite

THE



■ THEATRE 2

. . while in Glasgow the Citizens stages another grimly realistic novel by Irvine Welsh



RISING STAR

What's a talented 20-year-old actress doing playing a character called the Acid Queen?

The oddest thing about the appointment of Trevor Nunn to run the National Theatre has been the hostility of so many journalists. Three reasons suggest themselves. The first is professional pique: in all the runners and riders for the National" articles published over the past year. Nunn's name never appeared once — until the ru-mours started flying last month.

The second is the old British defect: we hate winners. And in the game of theatre, Trev is the biggest winner of all. He has amassed arry-cred and a vast fortune. It's just not fair, darlings, is it?

Finally, there's ageism. Nunn is 56, whereas his chief rivals are fresh out of primary school. Critics love calling for "new blood". Then, when things go hopelessly wrong, they point to "inexperience". That's called having it both ways. It's also called journalism.

So much for the scribblers. What of Nunn? He has some knony problems ahead: how to balance the National's text-based

No alarums and excursions, please tradition with demands by younger audiences for more "physical theatre"; how to retain the country's top actors for a pittance; how to attract more ethnically diverse audiences; and, chiefly, how to nurture new playwrights capable of changing the world - or at least the world inside our heads.

If he is sane. Nunn will emulate the methods of his predecessor. The most difficult trick in the arts is to sustain serenely a solid record of success. Richard Eyre did that. No whingeing. No "National in crisis" headlines. No flouncing off to the regions. No daft megamillion-pound projects. Just a determination to run three theatres so well that actors could get on with acting, directors with directing, audiences with enjoying. Such people are the softly-softly

geniuses of the arts world. Other

examples are Clive Gillinson, the

manager who has cannily steered the London Symphony Orchestra to glory while other orchestras floundered, and Brian McMaster, who has quietly eased the Edin-burgh Festival back into the premier league of world culture. I wonder whether Nunn is capable of being a softly-softly genius. Perhaps. After all, the only thing he still has to prove is that he can display other directors' talents with

displayed his own. And now, a warning. The Curse of the Anniversary has struck again. For new readers - and of course for very old readers who can't quite re-

with as much flair as he has

member - I shall explain. The Curse of the Anniversary afflicts creative geniuses exactly 50 years after their births and deaths or after the premiere of a



RICHARD MORRISON

magnum onus - and every 50 years thereafter. This is how it happens. First, some bright spark says: "Hey! It's exactly 400 years since Sir Clodhop Noddle, author of Ye Confessions of Ye Randy Plumber, died of the plague. Should we not celebrate by staging the entire work?"

And off he goes with his chums to do exactly that. But human originality being what it is (ie. nonexistent for 9S per cent of the time), some 29 other theatre groups have had the same notion. Thus the entire potential audience for Ye Confessions, approximately 17 people, is split 29 ways — which, apart from anything else, makes for a most vulgar fraction.

Meanwhile, scores of American

academics jostle to produce the definitive biography of Sir Clodhop. Radio 3 presents Alec McCowen reading Noddle's complete poetic works in 239 instal-ments at 11.55pm each evening. Sir Simon Rattle devises a concert series, Towards the Noddle, which reveals fascinating parallels be-tween Sir Clodhop and Karlheinz

paper columnists immerse themelves in encyclopaedias for all of 15 minutes at a time in order to produce 800-word articles called Why Oh Why Can't Modern Britain Produce More Noddles?

Yes, to see the Curse of the Anniversary in action is an 'orrible thing. And the result? Inevitably it is the opposite of what its participants had intended. Weeks before the anniversary day, the punters are heartily sick of Noddle. Indeed, some minor geniuses never recover from an anniversary. Who wants to hear another note of Purcell after being zapped by ode after ode in 1995?

Well, the Curse has struck again. And how. Keen fans of Mendelssohn's music will know that on August 26. IS46. Qucen Victoria's favourite composer came to Birmingham Town Hall

and conducted the premiere of his oratorio Elijan. So to mark the 150th anniversary of that event a Coventry-based choir has booked Birmingham Town Hall for a gala performance of the work.

Good luck to them. They will need it. For on the same night in Symphony Hall - not half a mile away - the grandest of British maestros, Sir Neville Marriner, will be summoning his Academy of St Martin in the Fields for another concert. And which work has Sir Nev chosen to conduct? Elijah, naturally.

Brilliant planning. But there's more. Music-loving Brummies actually have no need to go out at all if they want to hear Elijah performed on the 150th anniversary of its premiere. Guess which oratorio Radio 3 is proposing to proadcast that night, live from the Proms at the Albert Hall. Here's a clue. It begins with E, and ends with "oh no, not another one".

And people wonder why the classical music world is in financial disarray.

**GREAT BRITISH HOPES** Rising stars in the arts firmament

**NICOLA HUGHES** 

Profession: Dancer, singer, actress. "I don't want to be stuck in one category. I can do everything," says Hughes exuberantly.

Age: 20

Who is she? The Acid Queen, the drug-crazed hooker played on screen by Tina Turner, in the West End production of Tommy. In real life, Hughes is charmingly unlike her character, combining slender elegance with youthful bounce.



On the Acid Queen: "She is mad, seductive, scary. I haven't known any drug addicts, so I've tried concentrating on needing something desperately. But really I just get out there and hit the character on stage."

First steps? Hughes comes from Loughborough. She started dancing at the age of three, with the encouragement of her mother, who, raising her daughters single-handedly. made sure that each of them pursued a hobby. So, while Hughes's elder sister got into the England team for athletics, intermediate, Hughes trotted up the road to dance

And then? When she was 11, she gained a place at a ballet and drama school. At 17, she had a go at an open audition. Within three weeks I was leaving school, moving to London and appearing in Crazy for You."

Why does she work in musicals? "My face lights up just thinking about it," she says. "When an audience claps and you've given it your best shot, that's a beautiful feeling. I originally wanted to join the black Harlem Ballet Theatre in New York, but I'm a bit of an extrovert and you can give it more in musicals. I have all this energy bursting out of me.'

Any terrible moments? "Plenty. One evening in Crazy for You, my wig fell off, leaving me with mike lights flashing all over my head, parading around in the chorus line looking

Her future plans: "I go with the flow. I'd love to play lots of leading musical roles, pursue the singing which — unlike dancing — gets better with age. Maybe do an album." She has also been acting in a pilot BBC sit-com that should come

On herself: "I like having a laugh. I'm not quiet. But after a three-hour show, who wants to go and boogie? My idea of fun is going home. I love gardening: me, the cats and my

KATE BASSETT

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on Crusoe revisited; plus more Irvine Welsh

# The weak end starts here

West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds

f you think of Robinson Crusoe as the 17th-century version of one of Ayckbourn's madden-ingly cheerful DIY fanatics, Theatre de Complicite's latest effort should convert you. Played by Hannes Flaschberger as a morose cove who would be flung out of Cardboard City for being underdressed, he spends his days performing two pointless rituals. Either he sits staring out to sea, in case cannibals appear on the horizon, or he moves rocks from point A to point B, aided by Patrice Naiambana's even more silent and inscrutable Friday.

Complicite has ventured far

and wide in its search for quirky, resonant tales. Indeed, several recent successes have been derived from writers of, Daniil Kharms and Bruno Schultz among them. This time, the company has turned to the better-known J. M. Coetzee, who lives and works in Cape Town. Watching the white master and his black serf in their awful, enervating isolation, you are inevitably reminded of South Africa in the last days of apartheid, when Foe was written.

But this is far from the only thought the play provokes. In fact, Mark Wheatley's adaptation and Annie Castledine and Marcello Magni's co-production churn your brain cells more thoroughly than your less elevated parts. Even with a charismatic Kathryn Hunter as protagonist, narrator and permanent presence on Peter Mumford's ramshackle stickand-stone set, Complicite has trouble turning deconstruction into drama.



Patrice Naiambana (Friday), Hannes Flaschberger (Cruso) and Kathryn Hunter (Susan Barton) in J.M. Coetzee's Foe

Hunter is Susan Barton, a castaway who lands on the island 15 years after Cruso, as he styles himself, became its supremo. She spends Act I mostly boggling at a silence that, since he says little and Friday's tongue has been cut out by slavers, is broken mainly by shricking gales. Act II kills off Cruso, and brings Susan and Friday to London, where they fall into the clutches of Daniel Foe or Defoe, in Rob Pickavance's slanderous but strong performance a supercilious leech mainly interested in sucking a good,

saleable story out of facts he finds disappointingly banal. The play is largely about cheating people of their voices and hence of their power to be themselves. That is obviously the case with Naiambana's Friday, who can chant and grunt and dance a bit, but, like his South African descendants, is wrongly assumed to be empty inside. But Cruso is a man too damaged to be able to tell his story, and Susan, who wants only to recount the truth, falls victim to London's book-packaging industry. What she describes is an

day was bleak and boring: No strange fruits, no cannibals, only a woman cowering from the wind." But that does not appeal to the debt-ridden Foe, symbolically perched on a towering stool. For him, it is a case of Robinson Crusoe or bust. Susan sums up the theme a little too neatly. "Every time you close your ears to me you rob me of my freedom, just as the slavers robbed Friday of his."

island existence in which every

Complicite's work evolves as it runs, and by late-April, when it arrives at the Young

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Vic, Foe may have become crisper, more accessible. Something certainly needs doing - expansion or excision about the young woman who appears from nowhere to claim she is Susan's daughter. At the moment she is dull and distracting. And an ending that is interestingly mysteri-ous on the page becomes irritatingly baffling on the stage. Better, surely, to cut cleanly to Friday's terrible last yowl. That is truthful, dramatic, suggestive and everything else Foe as a whole could and

RECITAL

## Dessert songs

IF MUSIC be the food of love. then Sylvia McNair is a cordon bleu chef. She crooned her way through a Purcell ditty as a sort of pre-concert seduction, then sank into An die Musik, the first of a group of Schubert songs.

But, lest the appetite should sicken and so die. McNair had decided to share the platform not only with her keen-eared and ever perceptive pianist, Roger Vignoles, but also with clarinettist Andrew Marriner and cellist Paul Watkins. After a group of limpidly inflected Italian songs by Schubert, McNair and Marriner turned to The Shepherd on the Rock.

McNair/Vignoles Wigmore Hall

After a gently poised miniature cadenza, the clarinet provided a warm current of air on which the voice could float in its final spring song.

Watkins's task was to add his cello's voice to Four Songs by Andre Previn, receiving their UK premiere. These settings of poems by Toni Morrison are as uneven as they are varied, moving from an austere, barely tonal duet between cello and soprano called Mercy, through a sparky jazz number called I don't need no man, and on to In this soft place and I am as you see, which I found as musically indeterminate as they were verbally vapid.

McNair's satiny soprano gives its own distinctive gloss to the French reperioire. The voice came into its own as the ingénue teller of tales for Bizet's Ladybird; warmed to the arrival of spring in Chanson d'Avril, and revelled in the sheer sweetness and light of the Tarantelle.

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# Welsh dragons

FTVE young faces stare out from hoardings across the country: the damaged and doomed characters of Irvine Welsh's Trainspotting. Originally a book, it is now a film. and in between those two states a play that began its life at the Citizens.

I daresay Marabou Stork Nightmares, Welsh's second novel, again dramatised and directed by Harry Gibson. will follow the route of the first. It is a deeper, denser, altogether more serious work. and while, inevitably, Gibson has had to leave out many incidents, catastrophes, and even some killings, the anguish of the hero. Roy Strang. is brought across with electrifying intensity. As is the different anguish of the little girl he helps to gang-rape.

After the director's credit in the programme come the names of the designer (Suzanne Field) and lighting designer (Michael Lancaster). who vividly capture the shifting, interacting landscapes of Roy's memory, fantasy and grim actuality. And below their names comes a credit I have never seen before: "The Violence" by Denis Agnew. His contribution certainly includes the street fights of the Hibs supporters Roy gangs up with, but the sex is also uncomfortably violent. Not only Kirsty's rape, dimly seen happening in the back of a van, but the forced sex that an

Marabou Stork **Nightmares** Citizens, Glasgow

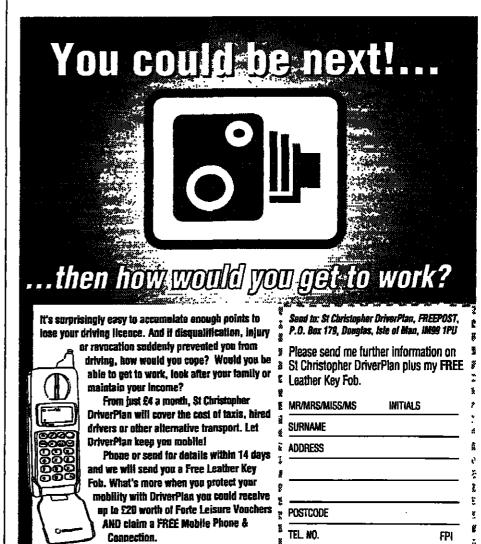
uncle inflicted upon Roy as a child - and which, rather glibly, is made to take the blame for what follows.

Welsh writes about people trapped in a terrible world where violence begets violence, and to reveal feelings is to have your face smashed. But where the junkies in Trainspotting live in an eternal present, Roy reveals the significant griefs and marvels of a lifetime interlocking with dread as he lies comatose in a hospital ward.

Played with a gritty, gutsy realism by James Cunningham. Roy keeps to the safety of his vegetative state while his dysfunctioning family and an unrecognised girl pay visits. He is deep in an Africa of the mind, hunting the loathsome predator-scavenger, the marabou stork that preys upon pretty flamingos. In truth, he is hunting himself.

Of the company's excellent supporting cast of four Joanna Madeod is outstanding in the contrasting roles of brainless mother, gormless daughter and the hapless girl Roy drags down to his level of slaughter or being slaughtered.

JEREMY KINGSTON



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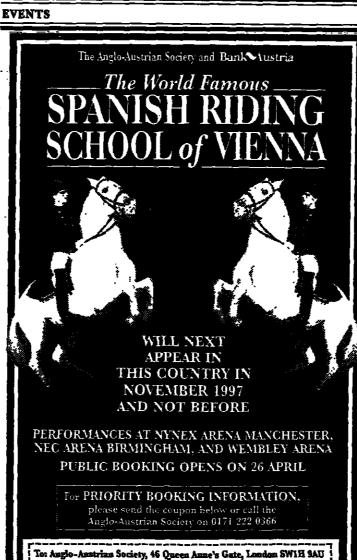
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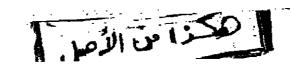
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VISUAL ART Turner's didactic Drawing Book, the Liber Studiorum, goes on show at the Tate Gallery



'Que sera sera'. as the lady sang: now they are going to stage a musical about Doris Day

BASE NOTE



إ حدكمة المن الأحل

BASE NOTE

Sam Mendes announces top casting for his next shows at the Donmar Warehouse



BASE NOTE

Elaine Paige makes a belated Broadway debut playing Norma Desmond in Sunset Boulevard

Isabel Carlisle on the print series with which Turner hoped to start a British school of landscape

# Bold new tradition in prospect

or the past few years, the Clore Gallery at the Tate which should the Tate, which shows Turner's bequest to the nation of his oil paintings, watercolours, drawings and prints, has been unobtrusively putting on a series of small exhibitions curated by outside scholars. The first five were supported by research grants from Volkswagen, the two

current scholars have funds from Nuclear Electric 6 Bear in behind them. Each exhibition mind that throws new light an unthe prints explored aspect of Turner's art

had an and is accompanied by a cataeducational logue which stands as an imfunction 9 portant reference work in its own right. The enterprise is an example of how a national collection can be made to live through the

efforts of experts and curators, plus the all-important sponsorship. Currently under scrutiny is Turner's Liber Studiorum, the series of sepia engravings in etching and mezzotint which the artist issued over 20 years from 1807, and which, this exhibition suggests, was Turner's attempt to raise the

position of landscape in the traditional hierarchy of art. That the 18th-century Romantic idea of the Sublime in art could be met by landscape was a challenge that Turner rose to in his early oil paintings. In the Liber Studiorum he

set out to prove that the historically differentiated types of landscape, from the great classical compositions of Poussin or Claude Lorrain to the humbler country scenes that derived from Dutch art. from mountains to seascapes, were all equally valid. The Liber was in effect a visual history of European landscape painting (minus text) which

would, Turner hoped, form the basis of a new British school of landscape painting. Claude's own Liber Veritatis, drawings of landscapes translated into sepia prints almost two centuries before, was a

major inspiration. The exhibition shows the entire series of 71 prints of the Liber around the walls of the two galleries and, in show-

cases, deals with the techniques of production and examples of drawing and painting manuals produced by Turner's contemporaries. In the stag-gered issues of

Turner mixed

typically English

country scenes such as The Straw Yard or Ploughing, Eton with the Italianate Woman and Tambourine, the awe-inspiring Mt St Gothard. or the storm-lashed Coast of Yorkshire. Some derive from his own paintings, others are in the style of artists whom he admired, such as Gainsborough, but many are original

The oil painting of Norham Castle (1845-50) takes up a subject that Turner first tackled in the Liber Studiorum after visiting Norham, on the Tweed, in 1797. This is the only canvas in the exhibition, and the watery morning sunshine dissolving the mist off the river in a shimmer of blues and yellows is a reminder that without colour Turner's art is severely diminished.

The painting is shown alongside the series of mezzo-tints in which Turner can be seen working out his ideas on the subject on one he scratched out part of the sky and added a wash directly onto the paper. In making the prints he selected and com-bined techniques according to



Object lesson: Turner's Inverary Pier, Loch Fyne, Morning, 1811, from his "Drawing Book", the Liber Studiorum

the analogous painting and drawing effects he wanted to convey. However, his fascination with light and atmosphere is not really present in these engraved studies that, in contrast to his paintings, have a relatively restricted range of tonal values. We need to bear in mind that the prints had a rather different, educational function, one that is filled by

photography today. Unfortunately, Turner was neither an efficient self-publicist nor an astute businessman and the series failed to sell well and to make the profits that he hoped for. In addition, although the Liber sold to artists such as David Cox and John Seli Cotman in Turner's lifetime, and Constable was ad-

vised in 1819 to "study Turner's

'Drawing Book' to learn to make a whole", it did not exert any significant influence on contemporary art.

Nor did the Liber achieve its additional propaganda purpose: Turner was elected to the chair of Professor of Perspective at the Royal Academy in 1807 but secretly hoped to convert this to a Professorship of Landscape Painting - a dream that failed to materialise. In the age of the blockbuster exhibition it is easy to forget that an artist's near

the enduring triumphs. Turner's "Drawing Book": the Liber Studiorum, sponsored by Volkswagen, is in the Clore Gal-lery at the Tate (0171-887 8000) until June 2, admission free.

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### **BASE NOTES**

IS THERE no end to the stream of musicals based on the lives of former stars? Apparently not; the latest luminary to have her exploits wheeled out for the nostalgia crowd is Doris Day. Some 40 of her songs are to be included in a new show at the King's Head, Islington, called Definitely Doris (opening April 10). So, one hopes, will be one of the great Hollywood quips Groucho Marx's observation: 1 knew Doris Day before she was a virgin."

£570,250 lottery grant, Darlington is to get its contro-versial train. No, not an improvement to local transport links; this train - or rather, Train - is a sculpture made from 350,000 bricks by the maverick artist David Mach. When erected, next to a new supermarket development. Train will be 48 metres long and ten metres high and depict a steam train emerging from its own smoke, in celebration of Darlington's illustrious railway history.

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 QUICKLY swallowing his disappointment at losing out in the National Theatre race to Trevor Nunn. Sam Mendes has

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announced bold casting for forthcoming Donmar Warehouse ventures. Jim Broadbent, last seen in hilarious form in Woody Allen's Bullets over Broadway, will take the lead in Mendes's new staging of Alan Bennett's Habeas Corpus in June. Meanwhile, Alun Armstrong and Stephen Dillane will play the desolate Hamm and Clov in Katie Mitchell's revival of Samuel Beckett's Endgame

 WTTH the new West End production of the show winning mostly favourable reviews, a remastered, one-CD version of The Who's original soundtrack to Tommy is now being promoted by Polydor. Meanwhile, a number of UK labels are said to be negotiating for the rights to a cast recording of the current London

● MORE than 15 years after she was turned down for the title role in the New York production of Evita, the pint-sized British singer Elaine Paige will finally make her Broadway debut. On September 5 she takes over as Norma Desmond in Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's Sunset Boulevard.

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# A master to make time stand still

Angelica Goodden evokes the

understated art of Vermeer

Vermeer, whom some consider the greatest of all painters, has had to wait until now for a major exhibition devoted exclusively to his work. Sold out even before it opened last week at the Mauritshuis in The Hague, the exhibition (which was al-ready a sensation in Washington) is likely to make anyone lucky enough to see it feel both the attractions of escapism and the power of art to fix

transient things in perpetuity. Even more than other Dutch 17th-century artists, Vermeer epitomises a paradox. Nothing appears more settled than a Vermeer interior or still life, though what they record is impermanence - the fruits that will rot and the daily human activities that apparently lack eternal meaning. Vermeer reassures because he seems to take us outside time. His pictures, which radiate silence and a sense of space, are all the more moving for seeming to pro-claim the virtues of changelessness. By being so unhurried, they work like a parable on the futility of haste

Vermeer's appeal has not always been felt. He was a minor celebrity in his own age.

but he died in poverty in 1675 and was largely forgotten for the next 150 years. Romantics like to imagine him as laughing at this obscurity from beyond the grave, either because he believed that posterity would

eventually do him justice or because he held worldly renown cheap. His day finally came in the mid 19th century, when he was rescued by critics and connoisseurs, and it has never passed. Our own age, which worries unconvincingly about not preferring intangible values to worldly ones, admires him as much as more frankly materi-

alistic ages have done. We now know that Vermeer cared nothing for money, but because Louis XIV's invasion of The Netherlands had disastrous consequences for the Dutch economy. Yet the myth of the artist's detachment from the world is a very potent one. In Vermeer's case it has been compounded by his historical elusiveness. He seems inscrutable because so much of his life passed unrecorded. Proust called Vermeer, whose art he had revered since his youth,

"unknown for all time". In fact, Vermeer is now better known than ever. Since it was discovered that he was a picture-dealer as well as a painter, it has been hard to sustain the old image of an aloof, unworldly Vermeer. But that belief is bound to persist, for it enables us to feel cleansed and pure in his

company. Part of the blame for the Vermeer myth must be laid at the door of Marcel Proust. In A la recherche du temps perdu, the famous writer Bergotte goes to see Vermeer's View of Delft at an exhibition in Paris. He is so moved by the picture that he collapses and dies in front of it. The detail which occasions his death is Vermeer's painting of what he supposes is a section of wall (it

is actually a roof). This is a masterpiece of such understatement that it makes Bergotte despair about the routine nature of his own work. "That is how I should have written," he says. "My last books are too dry. I should have applied several layers of colour, made my sentences precious in themselves, like this little section of yellow wall." Where Vermeer crafted disinterestedly, he himself has written with an eye to the public - hence his art is corrupt.

If an artist cares as much about his work as Vermeer did. Proust is arguing, he is necessarily a superior artist. This is not a convincing argument, but Proust used it to underline the supreme merits of artistic detachment. The case of Vermeer, misinterpreted or not, leads him to conclude that great art rests on hidden laws of sacrifice. Nothing but an obscure sense of duty makes an artist repaint a detail over and over again. even though the true worth of his devotion will be appreciated only when he is dead. The perfection of Vermeer's wall shows the proper autonomy of art. Art is worth being dead to the world for, as Proust sought

to do, and as legend likes to see Vermeer doing. The venal artist, on the Unhurried, other hand, concedes everything to his pictures the world and its work like a values. The secondrateness of much parable on venal art, incidenthe futility tally, is now on disof bustle play at the Royal Academy's Leigh-

> The View of Delft seems to Proust the ultimate work of art, in the strict sense of being outside time. The painting may have shown Delft at a particular point in its history (though it is no photograph), but it also "froze" the image as an ideal representation. Perhaps because it seems to transcend the inherent instability of real life. Proust's own great novel about time shares ness, despite its preoccupation with the mundane detail of high society. Likewise, Vermeer's women, absorbed in dreams, his quiet streets or townscapes, seem poetic as well as ordinary. They embody a truth that stands above truth-to-life. This is why they are uplifting as well as reassuring.

ton exhibition.

o the question of how close we ourselves stand to the subject of art becomes secondary. We do not necessarily need to identify an image as showing how some thing "really" was. We may be most moved by the way Vermeer makes simplicity appear preferable to sophistication. Possibly we love Vermeer because he exalts the virtues of calm ordinariness and discretion in a peculiarly beguiling way. Or we may admire the non-referential aspects of his work, such as his breathtaking use of colour, more than

anything. Either way, Vermeer manages to sharpen and enhance our own vision, as Proust thought the "binoculars of art" should always do.

The author is a Fellow of St Hilda's College, Oxford.

# Mary Ann Sieghart is unshocked by a notorious film about teenage sex, drugs and disease

Why I would let my

t was with some trepidation that I descended into a scruffy Soho L basement to watch a screening of Kids. Variously described as "child porn" or a "morality tale", this is a story of 24 steamy hours in the lives of a group of New York teenagers. It is either terminally depraved or unerringly realistic, depending upon your viewpoint. As the mother of two young daughters, yet liberal about sex and drugs, I expected to experience a deep inner tussle between maternal protectiveness and instinctive permissiveness.

To my surprise, I agonised barely at all. Were my daughters in their late teens. I would certainly want them to see this film. And I would make sure that we talked about it afterwards. For it raises so many issues pertinent to teenage life that it would be a sin not to take advantage of its release to hold the sort of conversation that is normally so difficult between parents

and their older children. The film starts from a universal truth: sex or the idea of it dominates the lives of 16 and 17-year-old boys. Girls of that age have feelings that are more mixed - they are both scared and excited by it, but they want it to be accompanied by love and they worry about exploitation, pregnancy and disease. These differences are explored in the first ten

children see Kids of unflinching veracity. Kids captures brilliantly the desperate urges that boys of that age experience, and the

girls to submit The moral to any teenage girl is dear, boys will promise anything to get what they want, and it is best not to believe them. For the effect on one girl, Jenny, of believing Telly's insincere protestations of love when he takes away her virginity, is that she catches the HIV virus. Because we learn this early on, we view the film through a different prism. Kids becomes a powerful contraceptive. And if it does not deter teenagers from sex altogether, it will at least encourage them to use condoms.

consequent pressures that they put on

So why do so many adults find the film intolerable? The most serious charge is that of paedophilia. This does not wash: though all the actors

old enough to have reached the age of consent. He is no dirty old man taking advantage of a prepubescent girl; these are two adolescents making the same silly mistakes that

teenagers make all over the world. That is probably one reason why some adults cannot bear the film. It embarrasses them. Men in the audience will be uncomfortably reminded of how sex-obsessed they too were at 16. Women may remember the dreadful dilemmas they faced at that age: simultaneously desperate to resist and to give into the pressure inflicted by boys. Meanwhile, those of an older generation may be secretly jealous that today's teenagers have a chance to indulge in what had to remain a fantasy when they were adolescents.

But Kids glamorises neither sex nor drugs. The sex scenes are

shabby even. Any teenager with an ounce of sense — and most have more than that - would see how empty these lives are. The many drugs scenes purvey no excitement: canna-bis may be entertaining to smoke, but to see stoned people on a screen is as

tedious as watching paint dry.
Unlike most teen films, the girls do not look like Sharon Stone and the boys are no Matt Dillons. Although the girls are quite sympathetic, none of the boys is attractive or funny or likeable. Because the characters are not beautiful and because they have not been given clever lines, the audience is never sucked into heroworship. Indeed Telly, the leading boy, is not just physically repellent. he even kicks his own cat and steals money from his mother. Not only is he clearly no hero: he is too obnoxious even to be an anti-hero.

Kids is ultimately a sad film. The teenagers depicted are no more than grown-up children using their bodies as toys. Puberty still has a novelty value for them, and sex is the most fun they can have without spending money. But they are struggling to grasp the rules of the game, to understand that, in sexual relationships, for every ladder there is the

risk of a snake. This is a learning process that almost everybody goes through when they first become sexually active. The age at which it happens will vary, and these New York kids with absent parents are likely to be the most precocious of all. To that extent they are untypical. But to deny that teenagers' private lives revolve around thoughts of sex and that they are tempted to take drugs for fun would be both unrealistic and ulti-

mately damaging. The British Board of Film Censors was right to pass this film and right to give it an 18 certificate, since in practice that means that children of 15. 16 and 17 will find their way in. Parents and teachers should encourage teenagers to go and to discuss it afterwards. Kids. for all its emptiness, tells both adults and adolescents more about real life than any number of saccharine Hollywood

# Heads or tails, Big Brother wins

Now that Camelot

cannot lose, the lottery is just a

form of taxation

hat a week this has been for capitalism. In London yesterday, investors in Lloyd's faced the gods of the market and wept. Thousands are now ruined. Yet across town, investors in Camelot were being tucked deeper in their feather bed by that friendly regulator, Peter Davis of Oflot. He agreed to cover them against a risk so small that Lloyd's would not have thought it worth a premium. Where, rose the rry over Lime Street, is justice?

The answer is known to every shrewd businessman throughout history. If you want to be certain of your money, cut a deal with government. The risk is negligible, politicians are gullible and the taxpayers' money is limitless. Britain's National Lottery will this year overtake Jacan's as the biggest in the world, with £8 billion in turnover and £4 billion in prizes. Anyone who thinks that money would be ever be allowed to run loose without a Treasury chapera fool. The me Thursday's bizarre decision on the "match-three" winners is proof of this. The National Lottery is not a game. It is a tax farm. Mr Davis's decision was really

trivial. Camelot has made great play of its minimum prize of £10, paid out to anyone who gets three correct numbers at the weekly draw. Roughly a million people a week win this prize, sustaining enthusiasm among those who rightly consider their chance of a jackpot as low. Camelot has noted that people tend to bet more highly on numbers under 31 (that is, on their family birthdates). Should too many gamblers hit the right three numbers under 31, Camelot might have to pay out more than it has allocated in that week's prize fund. This might jeopardise the bigger prizes, needed for marketing purposes. It might jeopardise the £100 million prize reserve. It might even lead to what Oflot's Mr Davis this week called "the nightmare scenario": a threat to the finances of Camelot itself. As a result, Camelot may now pay less than £10 on three winning numbers if it chooses.

This is most odd. The finances of Camelot make Fort Knox look like a piggy bank. Mr Davis admitted that the risk he was closing was small. His office said it was less than one in 14 million. An Oxford statistician said it would not occur "in the lifetime of the universe". Warming to this theme, Mr Davis told BBC Radio



Is the relationship between lottery operator and regulator too cosy? Chief executive of Camelot Tim Holley and head of Oflot Peter Davis

that he was more likely to bump into Elvis Presley on the moon. His visits to America may have told him things about Mr Presley concealed from the rest of us, but to lottery players the decision was a mystery. If the risk was so comically small, why break gambling's most sacred tenets: that rules are not changed during the game and that when the bank loses, the bank pays? To make a change against the small player to protect about-to-be-rich jackpot winners and already-rich Camelot shareholders

was extraordinary. When Camelot was awarded the contract in preference to Richard Branson's non-profit offer, much was made by the then Secretary of State, Peter Brooke, of the virtues of private sector risks and rewards. Had the lottery not started on time, Camelot would have been "fined" El million a day. Yet this was at worst a shortterm risk against certain huge profits. The Treasury, not Camelot, ensured the success of the lottery by legislating for a monopoly and banning all competition. It even banned a practice common in other countries, of private side bets on the outcome - to the fury of the pools companies, who have already lost a third of their business. The Government also allowed consortium mem-

bers to be exclusive sub-contractors.

Bigger even than the £320 million profit that ICL, Racal and De La Rue will probably collect over the sevenyear contract are the profits they will derive as non-competitive equipment

This week's decision confirms what those acquainted with state lotteries knew from the start. The only risk in bidding for a contract is the risk of not winning it. State

lotteries have to succeed because governments get too much kudos and revenue from them to "risk a risk". A lottery company is as secure as a branch of the Inland Revenue. Lottery contracts are

like arms contracts. They are a castiron, cost-plus-profit means of becoming very rich at the taxpayers' or punters' expense.

Camelot/Oflot's reneging on the match-three pledge is a storm in a teacup. I doubt if the number of players will plummet next week and the chance of the change being invoked is almost non-existent. What is more instructive is that Oflot decided that even an infinitesimal risk to the lottery had to be eliminated. Given the choice of cash-limiting the prize money or risking viability, Mr Davis cash-limited the prize.

Mr Davis is now involved in restructuring a large portion of the gaming industry in Britain, and in such a way as to give its producers all the protection of a public corporation. If a rule appears to put the producer at risk from the claims of consumers. statute law is invoked to close that

risk. Mr Davis is treating Camelot as if it were a surrogate for the taxpayer, as if it were in partnership with the Treasury.

The Government now has a huge stake in the lottery. Its success is altering the balance of

leisure spending in Britain by indi-viduals, charities, benefactors, the arts, sports and government. Gov-ernment already takes a direct 12 per cent cut of the lottery takings. This is unusually small. Most state lotteries give far more than that to government. Under the 1993 Act, the Treasury was generous in allowing a further 25 per cent to go beyond its immediate grasp to the "good cause" distributors (in one of which, the Millennium Commission, I declare an interest).

Three years ago the Treasury promised that this 25 per cent was sacrosanct. In the Commons on January 25, 1993, it pledged that its spending on arts or other charities would not be cut to match the extra coming in from the lottery. Ever since, the Treasury has struggled to circumvent that pledge. This year the temptation was too much and arts spending took the first axe. Now the Treasury is eager to shift lottery grants to current as well as capital spending, which will ease the path to further cuts in direct subsidies. Next it will probably press for lottery money to go to schools and hospitals. In other words, the lottery is on its way to becoming just one more source of general taxation.

Lotteries have provided a peculiarly acceptable form of tax, which is why banana republics love them. In Britain's case, the mild thrill of the lottery draw will incur what amounts to a luxury rate of tax of 37 per cent. But this tax is voluntary and, for many, it is clearly enjoyable. Lotteries are the way of the world. But we should stop pretending that they have anything to do with risk, capitalism or privatisation. Britain's state-regulated, state-protected, state-benefiting monopoly is John Major's dearest nationalised industry. The only risk is borne by the players.

# Literary agent

THE GOVERNMENT has been trying to lure the Soviet spy George Blake back to Britain for a court case on April Fool's Day. The case has been prepared by civil servants in an attempt to secure the £90,000 amassed as a result of royalties from Blake's book No Other

Blake, who was responsible for the death of a number of British agents and now lives in Moscow,



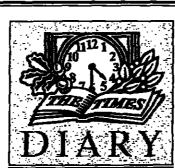
Blake: no royalties

was offered the chance to attend the

hearing but politely refused. Since its publication by Jonathan Cape in 1991, all moneys made from the book have been frozen in an application by the Attorney-General, Sir Nicholas Lyell. Blake, 73, received a £35,000 advance for the book he wrote in Moscow. At the High Court's Chancery Division, the Government will argue that the traitor has no right to the royalties, since the book was produced in breach of confidentiality. Lord Lester of Herne Hill has been appointed amicus curiae to ensure

Blake gets a fair hearing.
No Other Choice deals with Blake's time as a middle-ranking officer within MI6, his arrest, conviction and 42-year sentence in 1961, his escape from Wormwood Scrubs and his life in Russia. Benedict Birnberg, the solicitor who represented the traitor until legal aid was refused, said Blake was hard-up and living on a pension from the institute where he worked in the Soviet Union.

They indulge in unusual busi-.



Reykjavik advertised free mobile phones to anybody who turned up unclothed on a specific day. Twenty naked applicants, all male, duly showed - to be told that only ten phones were on offer. The nude clientele protested so vigorously that another ten phones were found immediately.

Bogged down

I TRUST that this weekend will prove rather more restful for Lord Nolan than a recent Saturday he spent with the BBC. A radio car was dispatched to his Kent home early in the morning, so that he could take part in a live debate with Lord Donaldson of Lymington, former Master of the Rolls, on the beness practices in Iceland. A shop in haviour of parliamentarians.

Transmission proved impossible can and long-time critic of Presifrom the noble lord's home, which sits in a hollow, so the BBC drove Nolan in its van into the countryside to find a suitable spot. Minutes before they were due on air, they still hadn't found one, so in desperation the driver pulled on to the

verge — and got stuck.
The interview went ahead. Afterwards, Nolan hopped out to help to push the van, which promptly sunk to its axles. He was eventually rescued from the scene by his wife.

### No Moore

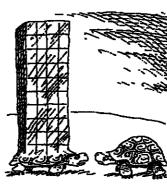
THE SIREN-LIKE antics of Demi Moore have signally failed to im-press President Clinton at the White House. The sultry star of Disclosure and Indecent Proposal has been asking for help from the American Government for her latest film, Gl Jane.

Makers of the film, an action thriller involving an elite US Navy corps akin to the SAS, asked for in-formation from the Pentagon to ensure authenticity - but to no avail. In desperation, Moore called the White House herself and demanded attention. She met with a swift refusal on a number of occasions, however. She is, after all, married to Bruce Willis, a staunch Republident Clinton.

### Broken art

DAMIEN HIRST, the pickled sheep of British art, is discovering that his works are not very long lived. His deconstructed "op-art" paintings are falling to bits.

Hirst recently presented to the Colony Room Club in Soho a painting of coloured dots on canvas, enti-



So I thought, what the hell, mortgage rates can't get much better

have dropped off. The artist was unmoved by the news - he simply signed the blobs and stuck them back on, claiming the value of the painting had been increased immeasurably.

tled Aprotinin. Two of the discs

### Balmorality

THE ROYAL Family's current predicament has given new life to that old chestnut of the relationship between Queen Victoria and her ghil-lie at Balmoral, John Brown. The BBC is making a documentary about their relationship (Billy Connolly is tipped to play Brown). and a book being hawked around publishers suggests not only that they married secretly but that she also bore a child. The author. Dr Micheil Mac-

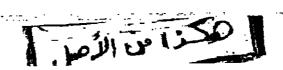
Donald, who has been researching the subject for 25 years, insists the relationship deserves fresh examination in the light of recent events within the Royal Family. "There is a whole matrix of evidence which is very compelling to suppose that Victoria did marry Brown and had his child," he says, claiming that a lady-in-waiting witnessed Brown emerging from the Queen's bedroom in the early hours and that a minister made a deathbed confes-



Brown: royal ties

sion that he officiated at the secret marriage ceremony. Needless to say, the Countess of Longford, recognised as Victoria's definitive biographer, insists that Victoria would never have contemplated a sexual relationship with a subject. let alone a domestic servant.

P·H·S





# **NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD**

The economy is healthy, but people do not believe it

Not since May 1966 has the interest rate charged on mortgages been lower than the 7.24 per cent announced yesterday by Britain's biggest lenders. For anyone shrewd or lucky enough to borrow money from Bradford & Bingley's Direct telephone-lending subsidiary, the new rate of 6 per cent to be announced next week will be the lowest generally available in this country since May 1960, when Harold Macmillan was Prime Minister. And mortgages in those days could be obtained only after finding a large deposit, saving loyally for years with a building society. often for derisory returns. and impressing its manager of one's moral worth. It can confidently be said that homeowners have never had it so good.

Why then do the country's homeowners, who also comprise a clear majority of voters, remain so resolutely sullen in the face of the Government's and the mortgage lenders' attempts to stuff their pockets with cash? One answer can be immediately dismissed. It is often argued that low interest rates are politically unhelpful and bad for consumer confidence because they reduce the incomes of savers. Such complaints disregard the benefits of rising stock and bond prices to many savers. Worse, they ignore the way that inflation and taxes used to eat away at weir capital in the period which many unsophisticated small savers still think of as the glory days of 15 per cent interest rates. In fact, with today's low inflation and the many tax shelters created for savers in the past five years, the Government could claim convincingly that savers, as well as borrowers,

William .

"have never had it so good". Why then is such optimism met with derision? The main reason is the sense of insecurity which Tony Blair has made Labour's political leitmotif. Many homeowners have lost their jobs, fallen into debt or had their equity wiped out by the slump in the housing market. For them even the present low interest rates seem painfully high. Worse still, many of the people worst affected by the housing slump are locked

into usurious mortgage arrangements which prevent them from benefiting from the welcome outbreak of competition in the mortgage market. Even those homeowners and savers who are better off are workers for most of their waking hours - and in that capacity they feel more worried about the future than Britons have for 50 years.

There is not much the Government can do about this insecurity without compromising its free-market principles and endangering the foundations of the economic recovery. There is, however, hope on the horizon. As long as the recovery continues, unemployment will go on falling. With lower unemployment will come greater confidence, gradually rising house prices and opportuninities for people with negative equity gradually to repay their debts.

But will the recovery continue? This constantly-asked question encapsulates the second reason for the public's sullen mood. People do not believe that the present economic upswing is as soundly based as it actually seems to be. Part of the explanation goes back to the debacle of Black Wedensday. The Government's own propaganda during the ERM period has continued to haunt it. John Major worked so hard to convince the public that a floating pound and a monetary policy independent of Germany's would lead to disaster that people still find it difficult to believe that these very policies are now providing a sound foundation for steady non-inflationary growth. Indeed, the Chancellor himself seemed to succumb to such doubts this week when he implied that Britain's monetary policy would probably be less successful if it remained independent than if it ioined a European monetary union.

Yet Margaret Thatcher's labour market reforms, combined with Mr Major's enforced conversion to monetary independence, really have made Britain's economy stronger than for decades. The question is whether the public - or ministers themselves - can be persuaded to believe this.

### **BEYOND THE BOUNDARY**

More than cricket is at stake today in the Indian sub-continent

India and Pakistan - the "midnight's children" of cricket — have fought almost as many wars with each other as they have played Test matches. If India has had the elige on the battlefield, Pakistan is to date ahead on the cricket pitch. Today, in the southern city of Bangalore, the two countries face each other in the quarter-finals of the cricket World Cup: the match, the first on Indian soil between the two sides in nearly a decade, promises to be part cricket and part. war. Old W. G. Grace, were he somehow to return, would not recognise the atmosphere; Prince Ranjitsinhji might, perhaps, but only with some local prompting.

Yet the true attractions of this game apart from the frills of atavistic bitterness and antipathy in the stands — lie in the quality of cricket which the contest promises to provide. Both teams are crowded with cricketers of extravagant panache, although the Pakistanis must be accounted narrow favourites. Wasim Akram, their captain, is the most compelling cricketer in the world: with pace bowler Waqar Younis and leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, he leads an incisive attack. India's strength, by contrast, lies more in one man, the Bradmanesque Bombay batsboy Sachin Tendulkar.

It is a wonder, however, that both sides are facing each other in India at all. Pakistan and India no longer play cricket except on neutral territory, with the sub-continent's cricketers paying a sporting price for the diplomatic tensions which today bedevil relations between Islamabad and Delhi. Ever since the Kashmir dispute took a violent turn, religious extremists in both countries have vied with each in an ugly contest of jingoism. The Indian extremists are ahead, so far, on points: the Shiv Sena party. Hindu fundamentalists with a scant understanding of the place of cricket in India's civilisation, forced in 1991 the cancellation of Pakistan's last planned tour. The party's hotheads, drunk on anti-Muslim sentiment, forced their way into Bombay's Wankhede stadium, dug up the pitch and doused the square with petrol. Hours later Pakistan called off its tour.

Today's match, however, will be as heavily policed as would a visit to Bangalore by the Queen. There will be more police present at the ground than there could ever be runs scored, even with Tendulkar at his brimming best: that is as it should be, for a violent incident will have impressive diplomatic repercussions. But if the match passes off as the cricketers themselves would like it to - with the scoring of runs, the taking of wickets and the grasping of steep catches taking precedence over the memories of past battles fought - the gains to both countries would be incalculable.

If the two countries have not fought a war with each other for a quarter of a century. they have not played much cricket either. The latter is cause for profound regret. There is much that India and Pakistan share history, language, food and culture - but there can be no bond between them more compelling than that of cricket. Let them play cricket today, and play again more often. If they can address each other with bat and ball, they will soon address each other, more constructively, beyond the boundary.

### THE PIGEON PIEMAN COMETH

Survival of the fattest: pigeons were made to be plucked

Pigeons make up the chorus-line of the urban landscape. From Trafalgar Square to the Piazza San Marco, whether perched messily on the heads of statues of worthies, or swooping up in flocks for no apparent reason, they are support players in the grand architectural ensemble. So this mysterious pigeon-napper of Trafalgar Square is attack-

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ing a sentimental urban archetype. Scotland Yard calculates that he has already removed 4,000 pigeons in his big box, and that if he is not stopped, all the pigeons will be gone from Trafalgar Square within seven months. That underestimates the capacity of those shabby grey unemployables to fill a vacuum. It also misunderstands the place of the pigeon in the food chain. For pigeons to be fed on tourist-trap grain and Soho black bags, and then to be recycled through the same Soho restaurants might seem a virtuous cycle. But urban pigeons can be unhealthy immigrants, and infect their eater with diarrhoea or even terminal belly-ache. Demand from restaurants for suspiciously

cheap pigeons is not likely to last. Pigeon was once a staple of the national menu. Even middling medieval establishments kept dovecots for the kitchen, as they had stews for their fish. Pigeon was dish of the day for Louis XIV, especially served with peas. That prototypical French gourmet La Varenne gives a recipe for pigeons and green-pea stew in which the birds are poached in stock and then garnished with lettuce, peas and bacon. Mrs Beeton

recommends a formula for cold pigeon pie, seasoned and stuffed with foie gras and quartered truffles, and padded out with plovers' eggs and some good forcemeat.

But for some, it seems, the plain recipe is simple. First take the Northern Line to Trafalgar Square. Then catch your pigeon. without difficulty. Why otherwise is a pigeon medieval thieves' cant for a gullible dupe who can be easily trapped by a rook or wideboy? Try to make sure it is a clean wood pigeon recently flown to town, not a Cockney squab. Then pluck it. The feathers come off more easily than a goose's, and thrifty countrymen saved fingernails by simply cutting off pigeons' breasts and skinning them. Then cook your pigeon with peas, bacon, onion, sweethreads and pastry.

Supermarkets and packaged food have alienated the public from the fundamentals of carnivorous eating. Our phantom pigeonfancier of Trafalgar Square deserves an OBE for bringing us back to basics. When Jean Knowlson, "the pigeon lady of Purley", has been banged up in Holloway twice this year for feeding pigeons, it is paradoxical to pursue the pigeon man. But it would be safer for bird's nest squab in Chinatown, as well as ecologically correct, if he could now turn his attention to Canada geese which are destroying the parks, and grey squirrels - delicious barbecued with roots. Blow sentimentality. Tom Lehrer's song Poisoning Pigeons in the Park was not in bad taste. apart, just, from the poison.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Long-term look at a single currency

From Mr Michael Fabricant, MP for Staffordshire Mid (Conservative)

Sir, With the publication of the Gov-crument's White Paper on the European Union imminent before the latest round of inter-governmental conferences, it is opportune to consider with whom and where Britain's longterm future might lie.

While the British Government and some of those few other EU countries which are net financial contributors to the Union are keen to devolve powers away from Brussels, the majority of member States are net beneficiaries and are deeply federalist.

Lifelong partners should be com-patible whether in marriage, business, or political union. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, is wise to explore and strengthen relationships across the Atlantic.

In the not too distant future the United States may well decide that it needs compatible partners who share a common culture and legal system. Strains are already developing in the North American Free Trade Area relationship. The election of John Howard as Prime Minister of Australia (report and leading article, March 4) may expose difficulties in that counrelationship with South-East

"Maastricht mark 2" must not limit Britain's future options through the surrender of our gold and foreign currency reserves to a European central

bank and a single currency.

If our relationship with Europe prospers, all will be well. If it does not, and as Britain cannot prosper in isolation, there will come a time when we may wish to seek other more global partners with whom "we can do busi-

In the next century we may need the independence of our own currency to forge our own destiny.

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL FABRICANT, House of Commons. March 8.

From Mr Bill Cash, MP for Stafford (Conservative)

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky ("Is the euro beyond our Ken?". March 5), in a clear reference to my call for Kenneth Clarke to consider his position on the issue of a single currency, argues that it would be preferable for those such as myself to take up the Chancellor's call for a national debate.

Your readers may have noticed that this is what I have been seeking for the past six years and more, not least in the Maastricht debates (when I put down over 200 amendments in my own name), in your own columns and where, in pamphiets published the European Foundation and in its European Journal.

In truth we have had a national debate. The problem is that sympathisers of Kenneth Clarke have not taken the blindest notice, despite proof that the ERM did not work, leading to massive unemployment, loss of businesses and homes, a gargantuan PSBR, higher taxation to deflate it and accompanied by broken promises. To the discomfort of the Euro-fanatics, as the truth has dawned, there has been a deep shift in electoral opinion on a single currency throughout the whole of Europe.

Our economy has improved (since September 16, 1992) but only despite the European policies of those committed to the ERM and monetary union after these had failed. They are simply not prepared to recognise that they were wrong and they cling to the wreckage of the Maastricht treaty. This needs fundamental renegotiation in the inter-governmental conference in British and European interests. It is

hurting but it is not working. Failing to repudiate the single currency and fixed exchange rates simply lets Labour off the hook. Blair and Brown could not deliver their promises for health, education and jobs and at the same time obey the requirements of monetary union.

I am all for a further genuine national debate (and Europe-wide) but, in the absence of a referendum, which the Chancellor resists, how would the result be judged? The issues are already clear. What we need now is a decision - in next Tuesday's White Paper on Europe.

Yours faithfully, BILL CASH (Chairman). The European Foundation, 61 Pall Mall, SWI. March 8.

### Manners at 160mph

From Mr J. Whittle

Sir, Your Car 96 section (March 2) discusses in laudatory and enthusiastic terms the production and sale of a Jaguar car capable of 160mph, describing it as "female-friendly". Selfish, insensitive, antisocial, yob-friendly would be a better description.

Another of your adjectives is "aggressive". Nobody needs an aggressive car. No civilised person would want one. Why are they made? Why does the law permit them to be used on our reads?

By the way, the interviewee in your "Steering Column" appears to express remorse at breaking the law while driving. Is this a record?

Yours faithfully, I WHITTLE. 185 Garstang Road. Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire.

### Democratic deliberation on future of British monarchy

From Dr Allan Jackson

Sir, I am personally ambivalent about the desirability of royalty as an institution (letters, March 4, 5). But there is no doubt that the Prince of Wales will, on his accession, be the most capable, best-informed and best-educated monarch of this country since Queen

Here is a man who has been educated in Britain and Australia; holds an honours degree; paints; writes; rides; plays polo; has parachuted; flies aircraft; and has captained a ship. He is committed to good husbandry, environmental care, and the built environment. More importantly, he has established The Prince's Youth Business Trust which, by the start of this year, had helped over 20,000 young people (especially disabled persons, members of minority communities and exoffenders) launch over 22,000 busi-

Compared with the appalling mediocrity of most of his royal forebears and of many of his political, ecclesiastical and establishment contemporaries. Prince Charles stands out as a beacon of some hope for this country's future. His private life is immaterial.

Yours sincerely, ALLAN JACKSON, l4 Latimer Lane. Guisborough, Cleveland.

From Mr Malcolm Winram

Sir, Politicians debating the future of our monarchy resemble a poachers' convention deliberating on the future role of the gamekeeper. If we do not wish to face the future election of the legal and military guardians of this nation, at party whim, then politicians should not be permitted such a disproportionate voice in the future of the British monarchy. Royal individuals may have their

imperfections but these should not be used to bring into existence the question of the monarchy, particularly by the group from whose political excesses it protects us. We have given politicians no such mandate and if they wish to play a role in this matter let them do so democratically by first seeking the electorate's will.

Yours faithfully, MALCOLM WINRAM, 27 Rothsay Road, Bedford.

From Mr Brian Hobley

Sir. The call for a debate in Parliament on the role of monarchy (report. March 4) is to be applauded.

The scale of publicity now being given to the actions and behaviour of certain members of the Royal Family. especially the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York, has revealed an indulgent lifestyle that is totally inappropriate at a time when millions have to see the quality of their lives

This raises the question of the true full cost of the monarchy to the taxpayer, including a range of subsidies and services apart from the Civil List payments. These subsidies cover such things as patronage, security, maintenance of royal palaces and apartments, "grace and favour" accommodation, and what some might consider excessive pageantry, pomp, and ceremonial.

Yours. BRIAN HOBLEY. 4 Village Farm Court. Weston-on-the-Green, Oxford.

From Mrs Jennifer Miller

Sir, Our Queen is probably the bestknown public figure in the world. She has devoted her life to the service of our country and Commonwealth. Who could equal her probity and selfsacrifice? She never has a day's respite from state business, and last year fulfilled 650 official engagements at home and overseas, while the Prince of Wales carried out nearly as many, including his brave and historic visit to the Republic of Ireland.

Altogether the Royal Family carried out a total of over 4,000 such engagements last year. Meanwhile the Treasury took a profit of £85 million from the Crown Estates, while the Civil List given in exchange for this remains fixed at \$7.9 million, and in any case only pays allowances to the Queen, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Prince Philip.

This country should realise before it is too late how much we are indebted to our monarchy, both figuratively and literally.

Yours faithfully, JENNIFER MILLER, 2 Heathview Gardens, Putney, SWI5.

### The spoils of war

From Dr John Drewe

Sir, I note with dismay that a spokesman for the Union Bank of Switzerland has dismissed as "a fairy-tale" claims that there are substantial assets from Holocaust victims in dormant Swiss accounts (report, February 24; see also report, February 8, and letter, February 14).

Five years ago, in Moscow, I examined German files taken from Berlin by the Soviets in 1945-46, including records of two of the agencies involved in the systematic theft of art treasures by the Nazis between 1935 and 1944. It is clear that some of those treasures fell into the hands of the Allies in 1945 and that by 1948 over two million items had been returned to 13 European countries.

Between 1949 and 1951 the collection. and storage of the remaining items was organised under the auspices of the Ministers-President of Lander. However, in 1952, the Federal German Government assumed this responsibility, and in 1955 the onus for returning stored items to the original owners was transferred to the Government by the Allies.

As a result of my investigations, I have no doubt that a significant number of the paintings, archives, books and treasures stolen from the occupied territories and placed in the central repositories in Munich. Wiesbaden, Marburg and Offenbach in 1946. are still being kept in hidden stores in Germany. Yet any action on the return of the smaller of these collections

is virtually embargoed.

Although Article 15 of the Cultural Treaty (1992) between Russia and Germany specifies the contractual arrangement for the mutual return of cultural treasures, the emphasis of that treaty is necessarily on major state collections. During the last 50 years there has

been no concerted attempt by the German authorities methodically to examine the existing records, in order to identify and return the remaining stolen items.

Two years ago a number of important paintings from pre-war private collections, stored in East Germany since the war, were returned to France (report, June 28, 1994) and the valuable stamp collection of the Latvian Post Office, held in Berlin since 1942, was returned to Riga in June 1995.

The artefacts and gold jewellery excavated by Heinrich Schliemann from Hissarlik, Mycenae and Tiryns, and given by him to the Berlin municipality, were captured by the Soviets in 1946 and are now in St Petersburg. The German Government has consistently claimed that they should be returned to Berlin under the 1992 treaty,

while the Russians have asked Germany for the return of some 40,000 items, including the Amber Room taken by the Wehrmacht from Tsarskoe Selo in 1941-12.

However, there is unequivocal evidence that the Amber Room is no longer intact and that the pieces were separated and auctioned in Berlin during the latter stages of the war. An official admission of this fact by the Germans would certainly not improve the chance of reaching an agreement on the return of other items, including the Schliemann collection.

The value of treasures confiscated by the Nazis from Hungarian Jews alone greatly exceeds the £21 million from Holocaust victims which the Swiss Bankers' Association claims to be lying in dormant Swiss accounts an inconceivably low estimate in view of the information now becoming available from the German files stored in Poland and Russia.

These files can be cross-referenced with prewar catalogues and some of the original owners can thus be identithe German Government to do so.

Yours faithfully. J. DREWE, Greenmantle, Washington Close, Reigate, Surrey. March 7.

### Hymns today

From Canon Michael Saward

Sir, Readers of Mr Andy Lund's letter of March 5 might believe that I had accused Graham Kendrick, the Christian songwriter, of writing "happyclappy choruses devoid of meaning". I did no such thing. Graham Kend-rick's songs are full of Christian doc-trine, which can hardly be said of many modern religious songs and choruses.

Mr Lund, however, unwittingly reinforces my main point. Kendrick's We Believe, he argues, "contains the complete Creed". Not so. That hymn, good as it is, confuses the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, omits all references to the key incarnational doctrines,

to the nature of the Church, baptism, the communion of saints, forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body. and eternal life, and goes on to add a non-credal gloss on the work of the Holy Spirit plus an extra passage from the Letter to the Philippians. A good hymn, but certainly not "the

complete Creed". A great many of those who sing it presumably think it is the Creed and many of them may well belong to churches which never use the Creeds in their worship. I repeat my main point: churches relying on a diet of "songs and choruses" are at high risk of creating theological ig-

ments over modifications of guide-

lines that they have ignored the facts

of how matters were perceived on the

ground. The Iranians could, through

their friends and agents here and in

the Middle East, see for themselves

the evidence of increased arms sup-

plies to their most bitter enemy.

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL SAWARD, 6 Ameri Court, EC4.

### Hostages and arms

From Mr L. J. McLoughlin

Sir, Lord Howe (letter, March 6) mistakes the relative importance of the fatwa, as against Iran/Iraq arms supplies, in determining Iran's attitude and therefore the fate of the British hostages (letter, March 2).

The Iranians had ample evidence that Iraq was receiving more favourable treatment in terms of arms supplies from Britain following the cease-

Many Conservatives have concentrated so much on sophisticated argu-

Yours faithfully.

BOB CLOUGH-PARKER.

The Bond, Godstal Lane, Chester.

Letters to the Editor should carry a

daytime telephone number. They

may be sent to a fax number -

0171-782 5046.

L. J. McLOUGHLIN (Director). (Publishers).

Yours sincerely,

London Centre for Arab Studies Vicarage House, 58-60 Kensington Church Street, W8. March 8.

### Martin Bell Asthma research

From Mr Stephen Fisher From Mr Bob Clough-Parker

Sir, Now that Martin Bell has decided Sir, You report today on the research to "hang up his flak jacket" ("Time to published this week in the British give peace a chance", March 6) and re-Medical Journal on a 1994 thunderstorm that led to London hospitals betire from the role of war reporter. I very much hope that he will find a role ing overwhelmed by requests for where he will bring to the reader, listreatment from asthma sufferers. I do hope that this will once and for all put tener or viewer the same succinct, paid to well intentioned but uninformstraightforward and professional reed sympathisers who tell asthmatics porting that he has provided during the last 30 years, very often under the that "you must feel better now that it's most difficult of circumstances.

> Mr Bell states that he did not choose the career, rather it chose him. I am very grateful that the choice was made and wish him well for the future.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN FISHER. The Lodge. Tarrant Monkton. Blandford Forum. Dorset.

### Lottery changes

From Mr I. N. G. Selwyn Sir. The changes in the lottery rules for those with three correct numbers (letters, March 8) imply that, currently, the group of £10 winners is not using up the segment of cash available

The natural quid pro quo to the proposed scaling down is that, in most weeks, the three-number prize should be more than £10.

Yours faithfully, I. N. G. SELWYN. 32 St Mary's Avenue, Northwood, Middlesex.

From Miss Sally Jackson

Sir, I buy my lottery tickets for eight weeks at a time. I was under the impression that I have a contract with Camelot which lasts until the April 6 draw and includes a guaranteed £10 minimum prize.

Surely even if Camelot can get away with this sleazy change to their regulations, they cannot do it at such short notice. I believe legally contracts can only be changed with the agreement of both parties.

Yours faithfully, SALLY JACKSON, The Folly,

High Street, Buxted, East Sussex.

From Mr Mark A. P. Groves Sir, I am bemused by Mr Morton's letter (March 8) concerning a £10 win. Surely you are £10 better off by winning £10 than by not? Or is this just the difference between optimism and pessimism?

Yours faithfully, MARK GROVES, Warren Down, Burcombe Lane, Wilton, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

From Mr Phil Hayes

Sir, Whilst I agree entirely with your leader today on those charlatans at Camelot, I must point out that Red Rum did not win the Grand National three times running — unless you mean literally running, as opposed to

His third victory in 1977 was uncoupled from his second in 1974 by L'Escargot (1975) and Rag Trade (1976).

Yours faithfully, P. HAYES. 2? Hazelwood Lane, Abbots Langley, Hertfordshire. March 8.



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### **COURT CIRCULAR**

and teaching of law at Cambrid

and teaching of law at Cambridge.
The Queen, accompanied by The
Duke of Edinburgh, later opened
the new Trinity College residential
development at Burrell's Field and

was received by the Master (Sir Michael Atiyah).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured the building and

met staff, graduates and under-

March 8: The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, The Stafford-

shire Regiment (The Prince of

Wales's), this aftermoon received Colonel Anthony Griffiths upon relinquishing his appointment as

Honorary Colonel, 3rd (Volunteer)

His Royal Highness, President

this evening presented the Royal Aero Club Annual Awards at St

March 8: The Princess Royal

Immediate Past Master, the Worshipful Company of Woolmen, today visited Axminster

Carpets. Axminster. and Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme, Cullompton, and was received by

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of

Devon (Lieutenant-Colonel the

Earl of Morley).
Her Royal Highness, Patron,
SENSE — the National Deafblind

and Rubella Association, this eve-

ning attended a SENSE Midlands

Tenth Anniversary Spring Dinner and Ball at the Grand Hotel,

Colmore Row, Birmingham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Midlands

March 8: The Duke of Kent left

London on an official visit to

Portugal. His Royal Highness later attended a reception for the

British Community in Lisbon, and

a dinner given by Her Majesty's Ambassador, Mr Roger West-

(Mr Robert Taylor).

ST JAMES'S PALACE

YORK HOUSE

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

lames's Palace.

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE** 

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE** March & The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, to-day visited Cambridge and were received at the Railway Station by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden) and the Mayor of Cambridge

(Dr Sonja Froggett). Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to the Judge Institute of Management Studies and were received by Professor Sir David Williams (Vice-Chancellor. University of Cambridge) and Professor Sandra Dawson

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh toured the Institute, meeting faculty and staff members and viewing displays on the In-stitute's work.

Her Majesty subsequently opened the new building.
The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh afterwards visited Jesus College to mark its Quincentenary and were received by the Master (the Lord Renfrew of

Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, opened the new Library and met Fellows, graduates, undergraduates and others con-

nected with the College.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited Sidney Sussex College to mark its Quartercentenary and the foundation of the new William Mong building and were received by the Manter Colbrid Horn. Master (Professor Gabriel Horn). Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, honoured the Master and Fellows with her presence at

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, afterwards opened the new Law School Building and was received by the Chairman of the Faculty of Law (Professor John Spencer).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured the building. meeting students and those con-

### **Dinners**

Cordwainers' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were present at the annual dinner of the Past Wardens of the Cordwainers' Company held last night at the Law Society Hall. Mr Christopher King, Master, as-sisted by the Wardens, presided. The Lord Mayor, the Master Cutler in Hallamshire and Mr Jeremy Skinner also spoke.

Woolmen's Company Mr Clifford S. Dennis, Master of the Woolmen's Company, presided at a livery and ladies' dinner held last night at the Tiverton Hotel, Tiverton. Mr W. Brian Dunn also spoke. Among those present were:
The Head Warden of the Incorporation of Wavers, Fullers and Shearmen of Exeter. Mr C Hutchison. Mr Tom Mor and their ladles, Miss Jill Taylor and Mr Simon J Wright.

### University news

Emmanuel College, Cambridge Professor John Eirwyn Flowes Williams, Fellow of the College and Rank Professor Engineering (Acoustics) in the University of Cambridge, has been pre-elected as Master of Emmanuel College. He will take up office on October I, 1996, on the retirement of the present Master, Lord St John of Fawsley.

### Church news

The Rev Richard Atkinson, Team Rector, Sheffield Manor: to be Vicar, Rotherham (Sheffield).
The Rev Stephen Balley, Priest-in-charge, St Michael, Betchworth and St Mary the Virgin, Buckland: to be Rector, St Michael, Betchworth and St Mary the Virgin. Buckland (Southwark). The Rev William Beaver, formerly NSM. St John the Divine. Kennington (Southwark): to be Honorary Assistant Curate, St Mary Redeliffe w Temple, Bristol and St John the Baptist. Bedminster (Bristol). The Rev Pauline Bicknell, Parish Deacon, Leeds St Aidan: to be Assistant Curate, Rothwell

The Rev Jonathan Boardman. Precentor, St Albans' Abbey (St Albans): to be Team Rector, Catford (Southend) and Downham Team Ministry (Southwark). The Rev Roger Clegg: to be Chaplain (part-time) of HM Prison, Askham Grange (York).



The second secon

The Queen Mother and Major Oliver Ellwood with the spoils of victory

### Queen Mother returns with a win

BY A STAFF REPORTER

QUEEN ELIZABETH the Queen Mother made history yesterday when one of her horses won the Horse and Hound Grand Military Gold Cup for a fifth time.

Attending her first race meeting since her hip operation in November, she witnessed Norman Conqueror take her into the record books with a two-and-a-half lengths success at Sandown.

Norman Conqueror was handed a significant advantage when his main rival, Mr Boston, stumbled to the ground after jumping the first of the Railway fences on the final circuit. The li-yearold maintained his lead, under Major Oliver Ellwood. to score from the fast-finishing Irish Bay with Equity

Player third. The victory was the 412th for the Queen Mother who may now be represented in the Grand National by Norman Conqueror. Tim Thomson Jones, the trainer, admitted he had been anxious: "I haven't slept for a week. Hopefully he will now go to Aintree but he is not the soundest horse in the world and the race comes quite quickly. He's a bit arthritic but he's got guts." The Queen Mother had not

visited a race meeting since the King George at Ascot last July. She last had a runner in the Grand National when Laffy fell in 1965. Corals quote Norman Conqueror a 40-1 chance.

Racing, pages 44-45

### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr S.B. Barton and Miss K.G. Studbolme-

The engagement is announced between Steven, son of Mr and Mrs Daniel Barton, of The Dillies Farm. Cirencester, and Karina. daughter of Mr and Mrs Simon Studholme-Wilson, of Oxleaze. Cheitenham.

Mr C.K.M. Belton and Miss D.B. Channon

and Muss U.B. Channon
The engagement is announced between Christopher, younger son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Belton, of Oxied, Surrey, and Denise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Channes of Cabham Ven. Channon, of Cobham, Kent. Mr J.F.M. Callen and Miss S.E. Chavasse

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Laurence Cullen, of Kedington, Suffolk, and Sarah, youngest daughter of the late Judge Michael Chavasse, QC, and of Mrs Chavasse, of Ticehurst, Fast Sussex. Mr R.LT. Cusack

and Miss N.R. Boddington The engagement is announced between Russell, younger son of Professor and Mrs Matthew Cusack, of Alveston, Bristol, and Nicola, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Boddington, of Crowcombe. Somerset. Mr W.J.H. Esplen

and Miss H.S. Chesser The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr J.G. Esplen, of Merriott, Somerset, and Mrs V.J. Esplen, of Bramley. Surrey, and Helen, daughter of Dr D.T.S. Chesser, of Chipstead, Surrey, and Mrs A.E. Self. of Shere, Surrey.

Mr D.G.C. Hawker and Miss K.J. Nash

The engagement is announced between Dominic son of Mr P. Hawker, of Worcester, and Mrs E. Meachem, of Nassau, Bahamas, and Kathryn, only daughter of the late Mr Tony Nash and of Mrs J. Hammond, of Monmouth, Gwent. Mr F.A. Mosier and Miss S.P. Wellesley

The engagement is announced between Frank, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frank Mosier, of Saratoga, New York, and Sarah Paige, younger daughter of the Earl and Countess Cowley, of

Flying Officer T.J. O'Brien and Miss E.C. Stephens The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs R.P.

O'Brien, of Innsworth, Gloucester, and Emma, daughter of the late Mr R.H. Stephens and of Mrs H.R. Pocock and stepdaughter of Mr H.R. Pocock, of Henley-on-Thames. Oxfordshire.

Mr M.B. Reynler and Miss M. Gray The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of the late Olivia Reynier and of Mr Peter Reynier, of Lindfield, West Sussex, and Maureen, eldest daughter of the late Philip Gray and of Mrs Mary Gray, of Bedford, Bedford-

Mr J.F. Oyler

and Miss S. Hanger
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Oyler, of Kensington, London, and Sue, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R.W. Hanger, of Harlamon. Lincolnshire Mr J.R.C. Seale

and Miss M.J. Taylor The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Sir John and Lady Seale, of Slade, near Kingsbridge, South Devon, and Michelle, daughter of Mr and Mrs

K.W. Taylor, of Mattishall, Norfolk. Mr N.V. Truelitt

and Miss J.C. Tanner The engagement is announced between Nigel, younger son of the late Mr Charles Truefut and of Mrs Daphne Truefitt, of Windlessham, Surrey, and Jane, or daughter of Mr and Mrs Albert Tanner, of Cliftonville, Kent.

Mr P.R. Willis and Miss K.F. Hannay The engagement is announced

between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs Brian Willis, of Northwood. Middlesex, and Kary Hannay, eldest daughter of Mrs Henry Fraser and stepdaughter of Dr Henry Fraser, of Newcastle-on-Clun, Shropshire.

Lord-Lieutenants

Algernon Heber-Percy to be Lord-Lieutenant for Shropshire: Hugo Brunner to be Lord-Lieutenant for

**Anniversaries** 

### Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Air Marshal Sir Roger Austin, 56; Mr Bill Beaumont, sports broadcaster and writer, 44; Mr Andrew Bennett, MP, 57; Dr M.G. Brock, former warden. St George's House, Windsor Castle, 76: M André Courreges, fashion designer, 73: Mr Herbert Courts, head of Museums and Galleries, City of Edinburgh District Council, 52; the Hon Sir Roualeyn Cumming-Bruce, former Lord Justice of Appeal, and his twin brother Lord Thurlow, 84; Mr Bobby Fischer, chess player, 53; Mr John Golding, trade unionist, 65; Major-General J.P. Groom, former director-general, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, 67; Mr Neil Hamilton, MP. 47; Professor Sir Donald Harrison, laryngologist and otologist, 71; Dr T.L. Johnston. o vice-C cellor, Heriot-Watt University, 69; General Sir Frank King, 77; Sir Norman Lindop, former Principal, British School of Osteopathy, 75; Mr R.G. Martin, company chairman, 75; Mr David Matthews, composer, 53; Sir Ronald Melville, civil servant, 84; Sir Nicholas Monck, civil servant. 61; Professor K.E. Robinson, former Vice-Chancellor, Hong Kong University, 82; Mr Howard Shelley, concert pianist and conductor, 46; the Right Rev James Simpson, former the Church of Scotland, 62: Professor Sir David Weatherall, haema-

tologist, 63: Mr David Willetts, TOMORROW: Prince Edward elebrates his 32nd birthday today. Sir Lawrence Airey, former chair-man, Board of Inland Revenue, 70; Sir Robert Bellinger, former presi-dent. National Savings Com-mittee, 86; Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, 83; Sir Paul Con-don, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, 49; Mr Fou Tstong, concert pianist, 62; Sir Angus Fraser, former chairman, Board of Customs and Excise, 68: Dame

National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations, 65: Rear-Admiral Sir John Garnier, 62; Sir Samuel Goldman, civil servant, 84; Sir Charles Hardie, chartered accountant, 86; Mr Warren Hawksley, MP. 53; Mr Hugh Johnson, wine expert. 57: General Sir John Learmont, 62; Mr Tony Leonard, Chief Constable, Humberside, 57; Mr Michael Montague, former chairman, English Tourist Board, 64; Mr Graeme Odgers, chairman, Monopolies and Mergers Commission, 62; Sir Michael Straker, former chairman, Northumbrian Water. 68; Captain Michael Torrens-Spence, former Lord-Lieutenant of Armagh, 82; Mr Peter Wormald, Registrar General for England

### Today's events

The Oueen's Life Guard mounts at Horse Guards at 11.00. TOMORROW: The Queen's Life Guard mounts at Horse Guards at at Buckingham Palace at 11.30.

### Reception

Royal Aero Club The Duke of York, President of the Royal Aero Club, was received by Mr Frederick O. Marsh, chair man, and presented the annual terday at St James's Palace. The Britannia Trophy was awarded to Mr Chris Rollings and Mr Chris Pullen for the first ever 1,000km glider flight in the United King-dom. The club's Gold Medal was awarded to Ms Judy Leden, for winning the Women's World Championship Paragliding title in was awarded to Mrs Diana Britten for becoming the British Aerobatic

# Church services tomorrow

Third Sunday in Lent BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 S Euch, O living Bread that once didst die (Whidock; 3.30 Choral E, O vos omnes (Vittoria). Choral E. O vos omnes (Vitoria).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP: 9.15 HC: 11 Choral Euch, Call to remembrance (Farrant). Professor W Ustorf: 4 Choral E. Hear my prayer (Purcell), Canon B Harper.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch. Commonwealth Day, Ubi caritas (Durufé), Rey D Chilongani; 3.30 Choral E. Salve salutaris victima (Philips), Canon A Redfern.

REMETER. (2.30 M. Drop drop slow tears (Walton); [1 \$ Euch & Conlinuation, The Bishop; 3.15 E. Saivator mundi (Blow); 6.30 Compline, The Precentor. munol (Blow); 6.30 Compline, The Precentor.
CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.30 S
Euch. The Lamentation (Bairstow), Canon D
Weston: 3 E, Miserere (Allegri).
CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC,
The Vice Provost: 9.30 S Euch, The Lord Bishop:
11.15 S Euch, O Salutar's hostia (Ejga/), The
Lord Bishop; 6 Choral E, An heart that's broken
and contrile (Cidroyd), Canon D Knight.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 LS NGO Chosa.

and contrile (Oldroyd), Canon D Knight.
CHESTER CATHEDRAL 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral
Euch, Missa O Magnum Mysterium (Vittoria),
Canon J Newcome; 11.30 Choral M, Ye are now
sorrowful (Brahms), Canon T Dennis; 3.30
Choral E, Miserere mei Deus (Allegri); 6.30 E,
Canon T Dennis. CARDON 1 DEFINIS.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Hear
my prayer O Lord (Purcell), The Bursalls Preb; 11
8 Hc; 10 M, Hear
Precentor; 3:30 E, 0 Lord almighty God (Naylor).

3 German: 5.30 E, Chistus ractus est (Bruckner).
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL Oxford: 8 HC;
10 M & Sermon, Canon Peirce; 11.15 5 Euch,
Ubi carlas (Duruflé); 6 E, Ave Maria (Parsons).
DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D Brown;
10 M, Salvator mundl (Tallis); 11.15 HC.
Crucfixus ellam pro nobis florid), Canon R
Coppin; 3.30 E, Christie qui lux es et dies (Byrd);
8, University Chapilaincy Lecture.
ELY CATHEDRAL: 8, 15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa
Euge Bone (Tye), Rev Dr R Marsh; 3.45 E, O pray
for the peace of Jerusalem (Howells),
EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Call
to remembrance (Farrand), the Bishop of
Crediton: 11.15 M, God so loved the World
(Staliner), The Precembr; 3 E Blessed Jesu
(Dvorak); 6.30 E Turn thee again (Arwood), Rev
F Webb.
LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30

Paddock.

IICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 8 Euch.
O Lord Increase my faith (Loosemore), Rev I
Hayter; 3.30 E. O Lord my God why has thou
forsaken me? (Humphrey).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8, 12.30 HC:
9.30 S Euch, Liftle organ mass (Haydn), The
Precentor: 11.15 M, Hear my prayer (Holmes):
3.45 E. O Lord look down from heaven
(Bartshill), Rev R Crossland. LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC; 10.30 L & Euch. Missa Brevis (Palestrina); 3 Choral E. Fauxbourdons (Gibbons), The Dean; 4 HC. LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L; 8.12.15 H

Redvers.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP. 9 HC.
10.30 S Euch, Communion Service in E (Darke),
Have mercy upon me (Allegri), the Archdeacon:
6.30 E. Walmistey in D minor, Lord ier me know
mine end (Greene), The Dean.
NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 8 HC.: 10.30 M. Lord
let me know mine end (Greene); 6.30 E.
Walmistey in D minor, Salvaior mundi (Blow).
PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 8 L: 8.15 HC.
9.30 M. Benedicite in F (Dyson): 10.30 Euch,
Darke in E. The Dean; 3.30 E. Dyson in F. Like as
the hart (Howells).
SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. The Dean: 10 the hart (Howells).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL 8 HC, The Deart 10 Euch, Thee we adore (Plainsong), Canon J Osborne; 11.30 M, Drop drop slow tears (Walton), Canon J Davies; 3 E, Out of the deep (Morley); 3.45 interment of ashes. (Money): 3.45 interment of sines.
SHEFFELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 MP; 10.30
S Each, Congregational Mass, Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), Canon G Tolley; 6.30 & Sermon, Fourth Service (Batten), Beari Quorum (Stanford), Canon T Page; 8 Christ in Quiet. (Patrant, Rev H Cupline. SO(ITHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 MP: 8 HC; 9.30 Parish C; the Chancellor. 11 S Euch, Missa O quam Gloriosum (Victoria), Canon R Austin; 3.15 E, The Wildernes (Wesley): 5.45 Compline. 3.15 E. The Wilderness (Wesley): S.45 Compiline.
WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, the Provest;
9.15 Parish C: 11 Solemn Euch, Benedictus
Sumston in G, Canon G Naim-Briggs; 4 E, Hear
my prayer (Mendelssohn); Canon B Ellis.
WELLS CATHEBORAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa
acterna Christi muchera (Palestrina), Rev M
Walker; 11.30 M, Ave verum corpus (Hendrie); 3
E, Let the people praise thee (Mathlas), the B
Rev R Lewis.

NEY K LEWIS.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10 M, The people will leil (Handel). Canon C Semper: 11.15 Euch, Salvator mundi (Tallist). Crucifius (Lotti), the Dean; 3 E, Cust me not away (Wesley), key B Schunernann: 5.45 Organ; 6.30 Rev B Senton.

REV B SCHUREMARIN: 2.45 OFBAR; 6.30 REV B FERIDON.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12; 5.30, 7 Mass, 10 MP; 10.30 Solemn Mass, Missa Triste denari (Lessus), in feilix espo (i) (Byrd), Outd igitur (ii) (Byrd); 3.30 Solemn Vals, Magnificat lexiti tone (de Monte), Ad te igitur (iii) (Byrd); 4.30 Reclini.
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M. Benedictus (Windsor Service) (Howells), Emendemus in melius (Byrd), the Archdeacon; 11.30 Euch, Pantasia in F minor/major (Mozart; 3.30 E. Gioucester Service (Howells), Remember Lord what is come upon us (Walmisiey), Rev M Coppen.
YORK MINSTER: 8,3.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Missa Papar Marcelli (Palestrina), Very Rev R Purnell; 11.30 M., The Lamentation (Balistow); 4 E. O Lord the healthen are come (Child), Rev T Gill.
ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL Chyrd: 8 HC; 11 Lord the heathen are come (Child), Rev T Gill. ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral M. Insanae ei vanae curae (Haydn), The Dean; 3.30 EP. Dean; 3.50 Er.

ST DAVID'S CATHEDRAL:8 HC; 9.30 Parish
Euch, The Succentor; 11.15 Choral M. Laudate
Dorninum (Mozari), The Dean; 6 Choral E. O

Lord look down from heaven (Banishill). The Dean.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL Southwark: 8,10.6 LM: 11.30 Solemn M. Mass for 4 voices (Byrd), Ave verum (Byrd), Rev J Pannetr: 2 Chanalan Mass, Bishop H Tripp.

ST GILES CATHEDRAL Edinburgh: 8, 10 Morning HC. Mass for four voices (Byrd), the Minister, 11.30 Morning, Like as the hart (Blowells), The Minister; 6 Lenten Address Talk, Rev K Clements; 8 Evening, Rev K Clements.

ST FATRICK'S CATHEDRAL Armagh: 10 HC: 11 M. Call to remembrance O Lord (Farrant): 3,15 E & L incline thine car (Fummel), Rev W Twaddell.

Twaddell. ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC: 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), Rev M saward; 3.15 E, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), Rev C Cocksworth; 5.15 Organ.
ALI SAINTS. Margaret Street, W1: 8,5.15 LM; 10.20 MP, 11 HM. Mass for five voices (Byrd), Rev I Davies; 6 Solemn E & B, the Short Service (Caustun), Rev P Johnstone.
ALL SOMES. Laneham Place. W1: 9 ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion; 11 Rev J Cook; 6.30 Goest service, Rev A Rider.

Units ex discipling figure (villing, 5) amounts in medic (tye).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8,12.15 HC: 10 Children: 11 M. Nolo mortem peccaloris (Morley), Dr P Elvy; 6 E. Rev D Bean.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covers Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev 8 Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 Solemn Latin,

HGEY TRINITY BROMFTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9.48 HC, Rev N Lee; 11 Informal, Rev S Downham; 5, 7.30 Informal, Mr K Costa.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Super flumina Rabylonis (Guerrero), in iglunic et lietu (Tallis); 12.30, 4.30 Mass, 7; 3.30 V & B. Miserer nostri (Tallis).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, Iverna Gdrs, W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archibshop y Gizirlen.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; westey's Chapel, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 Morning, Rev P Huime. WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SWI: 10 HC; 11 Morning 6.30 E Praise, Rev Dr P Graves.

SWI: 10 HC; 11 Morning: 6.30 E Praise, Rev Dr P Graves.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheram), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev P Schmiege, 7 Lutheran Choral V, Pantasia & Fugue (Reger), Rev P Schmiege.
ST BRIDES. Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Benedictie (Ashfield), Byrd for 5 voices, Drop slow bears (Leighton), Canon J Oates.
ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral M, The Lamentation of Jeremiah (Ballistow), Benedictus (Gibbons), Hear my prayer (Purcell), Rev Fr J Daly.
ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTIAND, Pont Street, SWI: 11 Rev C MacLeod: 6.30 Rev W A Calms.
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place 9, 11 S Mass, Plainsong Mass for a Mean (Sheppard), Abstenge Dumine (Tailis), O Sacrum Convivium (Tailis)

### Today BIRTHS: Amerigo Vespucci, ex-I I S Euch, Byrd 4 part, Crucifixus (Lotti), the

plorer, Florence, 1451; William Cobbett, essayist and politician, Rector.
ST JAMES'S, Susser Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30
S Euch, Missa Brevis (Lotti), God is a Spirit
(Bennett), Rev B Wilson; 6 Choral E, Short
Service (Byrd), Bow thine ear (Byrd).
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev
M Robins; 5.45 EP. Farnham, Surrey, 1763; Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary 1945-51, Winsford, Somerset, 1881: M Robins; 5.45 EP.
ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family, Processional (Mathias), Rev D Horn: 6.30 HC, Rev M Holmden.
ST LUKE'S, Chelsea. SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Hide not the face (Parrant), Rev S Watson: 6.30 E. The Tree (Harvey). Very Rev M Mayne.
ST MARK'S, Repents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C: 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Ad Te levavi oculos meos (Palestrina), Rev A Shaw. SNEW.
ST MARGARETS, Westminster, SWI: } ] S Euch.
Ireland in C; The Lamentations of Jeremiah
(part 2) (Tallis), Rev P Cowell.

ST MARINININITHE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC: 9.45 Euch, Rev C Herbert: 11.30 Visitors, the Vicar; 2.45 Chinese, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 Evening office in Lent. ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8,12,30 HC; 9,30 Parish Euch, Rev F Gelil; 11,15 Choral M. Miss. 8.12.30 HC: 9.30 Parish Euch, Rev F Gelli: 11 IS Choral M, Miss L Burnon: 6.30 E, Rev F Gelli: 57 MARY'S, Bourne Street, Swi: 9,10.7 LM; 11 HM Communion in the Phypian Mode (Wood), Fr S Young: 6 Solemn B & Solemn B, ST MARY-THE-YIRGIN, Printrose Hill: 8 HC: 10.30 Parish Euch, Mass [Painsong), The Lamentations (Balistiow), Rev L van der Pump: 6 EP & prayer & meditation.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place. SWI: 8,9 HC: 11 Solemn Buch, Short Service (Tallis), ich aber bin elend (Brahtris), When David heard (Tomkins), Rev H Ruschmeyer.

ST PETER'S, Eston Square, SWI: 8.15 HC: 10 ciend (Brahmis), When David heard (Tomkins), Rev H Ruschmeyer.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Mass for three voices (Byrd), Cross Vigil (Shaw), Fr A Chidwick.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 8 HC; 11 MP, Jubilaite (Thaiben-Bail), Domine qui promisisti (Williams): 6.30 E, Canon Porter.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8.9 T.M.: 11 Solemn M, Missa a 4 (Heredia), Exaudi Deus orationem meum (Lassus), Jesu divicis memoria (Victoria), Canon C Colven.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA.

Young GROSYENOR CHAPEL. South Audley Street, WI: 1) S Euch, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Salvator mundi (Taills), Rev 5 Hobbs.

HC.
THE TEMPLE CHURCH. Fleet Street: 8.30 HC;
11.15 MP, Lord for the tender mercles' sake (Hillion), Remember O Lord what is come upon us (Walmisley), Ven G Cassidy.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SWI:
11 M, O Lord increase my Laith (Gibbons), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Bank of the Scots Guards, Rev J Gough; 12 HC.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SEIO: 11 S Euch, Merchecke, Wash me throughly (Wesley), Rev C French.

Vyacheslav Molotov, statesman. Kukaida, Vyatka, 1890; Victoria Sackville-West, novelist and biog-rapher, Knole Castle, Kent, 1892: Samuel Barber, composer, West Chester, Pennsylvania, 1910: Yuri Gagarin, first astronaut to of it the Earth 1961, Smolensk, 1934. DEATHS: Jules Mazarin, cardinal and statesman. Vincennes. France. 1661: Arnold Toynbee, social philosopher, London, 1883. William I, German Emperor 1871-88, Berlin, 1888; Hippolyte Adolphe

Paris, 1893; Frank Wedekind, dramatist, Munich, 1918. British police deported Archbishop Makarios from Cyprus to Sey-BIRTHS: Friedrich von Schlegel,

philosopher and historian. Hanover, 1772; William Etty, painter, York, 1787; Arthur Honegger, composer, Le Havre, 1892. DEATHS: Muzio Clementi, pianist and composer, Evesham, 1832; Taras Shevchenko, poet, Ukraine, 1861; Giuseppe Mazzini, Italian patriot. Pisa, 1872; David Beatty, 1st Earl Beatty. Admiral of the Fleet, London, 1936; Mikhail Bulgakov, dramatist and novelist, Moscow, 1940; Laurence Binyon, poet, Reading, 1943; Jan Masaryk, statesman, Prague, 1948; Frank O'Connor, writer, Dublin, 1966; Konstantin Chernenko, General

Party 1984-85, Moscow, 1985.

A Japanese soldier who believed the Second World War was still being fought was found in hiding on Lubang Island in the Philipping 1974 ippines, 1974.

### PRIVATE: 017

### BMD'S: 0171 6 PFRS COLUMN Exalt the Lord our God, and bow down towards his holy mountain; for holy is the

TRADE: 0171 481 9313 FAX: 0171 481 9313

FOR SALE

Lord our God. Psains 99 : 9 (REE)	١
RIRTHS	<u> </u>
SISHOP - On February 23rd, to Fiona (tole Barcley) and bavid, a son, Robert Daniel, a brother for Cityer.	<b>'</b>
RUMMING - On Sth March 1996, to Louise and Jon, a son, Toby Harrison, a brother for Thomas and Jack.	ŀ
COPISAROW - On 7th March in Portland, Oregon, USA, to Richard and Wendy, a son, Justin Alcon.	ŀ
CROSSELY - On November 12th 1996, to Antoinette and Dominic, a beautiful son, Colum Terence, 9ths 9oz in New Zealand. A baby brother for Darryl and	,
Francesca. de KLEE - On Merch Sth. to Flona (née Lestie) and Richard, a son. Lachian Richard John, a brother for Frederick.	
de SOISBONS - On 6th March 1996, to Silvie Code Toti) and John-Paul, a daughter, Mariella Sophie. DOISON - On 8th March in Hong Kome, to Mraty (née Riddle) and Mark, a son,	•
Hamish Robert Keuneth, a brother for Febella and Chies.  EDWARDS - On 6th Merch	,
1996. to Philipps (née Kind) and Andrew, a daughter, Poppy Elizabeth Philipps, a sister for William, Jenkina and Eliza.	
FOX/BEMBETT - On 27th February, to Ruth and Palip, a con, Abstat Peter Fox, a brother for Petrick and Thomas.	
HUNTER - On March 1st 1996. to Margaret (née McLoughin) and km, a sen, Joustian Michael Kellock, at The Mattide Hospital. The Peak. Hong Kong. A welcome bruther for Roth.	C

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BIRTHS	DE
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KARLSEN/YOUNG - On March Srd in Norway, to Armsbel and Fred, a son. LANGMAN - On Saturday March 2nd 1996 at The Lindo Wing, St Mary's, Paddington, to Alexandra (née Merivale-Austin) and Nicholas, a son. Oliver William Anstin, a brother for Alexandra and Christian. MELLER - On March 2nd, to Kale (née Jenkins) and Simon, a son. Gabriel Aymeric John. MOOK - On March 5th at St Thesmay Houghts. to Thibann, sen. Hago Charies. MUCK - On Sth March 1996, to Sophia (née Backm) and David, a danghar. SEARS - On March 2nd 1996 at The Portland Houghts. to Nicola (née Spaer) and Jason, a second beautind daughter. Morgan Roberts, a sister for Georyis. SOLRS - Botn on 2nd March 1996, to Karen (née Kaplan) and March 2nd 1996.  BOLRS - Botn on 2nd March at the Portland Houghts. to Karen (née Kaplan) and March 2nd 1996, to Saby (née Jarram) and Just. a beating boy manned Loon. Wilkingson - On 6th March 1996, to Saby (née Jarram) and Guy, a daughter. Mandalene Grace.	de A  Internation  Internation
	Pari in C
DEATHS	$\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{p}^{k}}$
MARDSLEY - Peacefully on 7th March, Anthony Woodhouse T.D. Dearly loved husband of Peogy. Funeral on Wednesday 13th March, at 2 pm at Mortaibr Grematerium, London, SW14. All enquiries to Barnes & Sons, (0181) 743-4312. COX - Fostar, much loved father of Simon and father-in-law of Hanjis, died peacefully after a short lillness aged 95. Funeral private. No Howers please.	berr Sub in 6 Can LEAG sud 199 fath This 1.3 Chr flow and Stree 380

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	DEATHS	ľ
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- On	de AVENDANO - On March	ı
ay. to son.	ist 1996 in hospital in Madrid, Sheelah Louise	
urday	Figher de Avendano, aged 64. Denghier of LL Col. C.P.	ı
t The My's.	64. Daughter of Lt. Col. C.P.   Fisher, RAVC, MRCVS, and	
andre	his wife Jean Wranchare.	
) and Diver	widow of sener don Jose Luis de Avendano y Portun	i
her for	and dearly loved mother of Luis, Miguel and Sylvin. The	
ind. to	I GOTTOT AND OTHER DIPOCE DIII	
) and abriel	Suntander, Spain, on Merch 9th. A memorial service will	
TOI IST	be held at the British Embessy Church of Saint	
at St.	Embessy Church of Saint   George in Madrid on Friday	
many	George in Madrid on Friday March 15th at 7,30 pm. Address: Ribera dei	
1996.	Manzanares 5, 28008	
Dans (e	Medrid. Spain.	
l 1996	FOOKS - Henry Raymond	
	Harvey, died peacefully with his family on 8th March	
Janean, aghter,	1996, much lowed himband	
er for	of June, father of Caroline, Secreta and Sarah and grandfather of James.	
March	grandfather of James.   Thanksgiving Service et All	
int to	Saints Church, Eyke on Wednesday 13th March at	
	12 noon. No nowers but	
March	12 noon. No flowers but donations to Chest Unit. Inswich Hospital.	
TTAUR)	í I	
hter.	PORBES - David Ochonoar of Parknesis, Corse, peacefully	
_	Purkneys. Carse, peacefully in Cornwall on Sunday Srd. March after a long and hydrog illness. Characteristically borne. Cremation private. Subsequent commenceration in Abstracteristics. In Abstracteristics.	
	Muess, characteristically	
	Subsequent commenceation	
pona pona	in Aberdeenshire, Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie	
early	Carrier Carrie	
130h	LEACH - ARGERY ROY.	
rtiake idon,	suddenly on March 7th	
es to	LEACH - Andrew Roy, suddenly on March 7th 1996. Adard husband and father. To be remaindered on	
743-	Thursday March 14th at 1.50 pm St James'.	
loved	Christleton, Chester, No	
died	flowers, denations to RNLI and the Hospice c/o Dutton	
shert	and Hallmark, 80 Falkner	

)	ONA
	DEATHS
	RACKNAM - Arthur. Peacejully at home after a long illness, aged 73 years, on March 6th 1996. When merchant, dearly loved bushand of Hills and deer father of Gillian, Pameia and James. Requiem mans at St Erconwald's Church. Wallous-on-Thames. Thursday 14th March, 10em, followed by a buriel at Borvale Cometeny. Hersham at 11.15 am. Pamily flowers only, densitions if desired to Wallon Community Hospital. C/o Mrs Canothee Stationey, Hospital Administrator (in teemory of Arthur Heary Rackham). Rodney Road. Whitms-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 3.B.
	VAUGHAN-DAWKES - Richard Charles aged 59 years, peacefully in Wellingion, New Zestand, Beloved hosband of Christine, father of Helen and Carolline, brother of John and the late Mary Bradshaw. Late of Absygnvenny and the Royal Grammer School, Guildford.
l	IN MEMORIAM -
ļ	PRIVATE
	CAMOYS - Sharman Stonor, Sth Baron, of Stonor Park. Died suddemly, tragically, March 9th, 1976, aged 62. Beloved, gentle father of Julia. Deeply respected, greatly admired. never for- gothen. Heroically Christian.

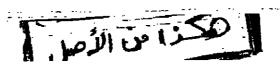
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THANKSGIVING SERVICES	LEGAL NOTICES
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HANKEY - L.H.A. (MATK)	Chancer District
Hankey CBE. A Service of Transagiving will be held on	Companies Court in the Melber of Index FX Limited
Monday April 22nd at	Index FX Limited And in the Matter of
2.30pm at Castle Rising	the Companies Act 1986
Church, seer King's Lynn. Norfolk, with refreshments	Charle Petition was on 28th
afterwards. If wished all departions may be sent to the	And to the Matter of the Companies Act 1966 the Companies Act 1966 NOTICE IS HEREBY OF that a Publish was on 20th rancy 1996 Enwested to Her safety's 1986 Court of Justice the conformation of the reduction
depations may be sent to the Secretary. I.A.P.S., 15	the confirmation of the reduc
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NOTICE OF MEETING	Companies Court Registrer at
The Law Debuggers Corporation pl.c.	London, WC2A 2LL on 1
Notice of Meeting of	March 1996. Any Creditor or Shareholds
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Debesture Stock Proposed redemption at 60% of the principal amount. Notice is baruby given that a meeting of the holders of the 45th Purpetual Debesture Stock of The	to the continuation of the control for the continuation of the continuation of the
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	A copy of the said Petition
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12.50pm on 21st March 1996 to	M.W. Consider & Co.
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### **OBITUARIES**

# MARIE-HÉLÈNE DE ROTHSCHILD

Baronne Marie-Hélène de Rothschild, wife of Baron Guy de Rothschild, head of the French branch of the banking family, died on March I at Ferrieres en-Brie, Scine et-Marne, aged 68. She was born in New York on November 17, 1927.

FOR three decades, Marie-Helene de Rothschild dominated the Parisian social scene, the so-called Tout Paris as it was known before its eclipse at the end of the 1980s. She organised sumptuous charity balls and exhibitions, was a patroness of the arts, a pillar of the haute couture world, and a leading breeder, and owner (with her husband) of such horses as Exbury, winner of the Arc de Triomphe in 1963,

However, few people outside her immediate circle knew that for this same period she was a sick woman suffering from a serious respiratory complaint. For French people at large, she was a model of elegance, charm and considerable energy.

- Of Hone

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In many respects she was the modern successor of the aristocratic ladies who had run the salons in the 17th and 18th centuries. She and her husband entertained lavishly, first at the Château de Ferrières, designed by Sir Joseph Paxton, architect of the old Crystal Palace, for Baron James de Rothschild in the 1830s. The great house was the ancestral home of the French branch of the dynasty until 1975 when Guy and Marie-Hélène de Kothschild donated it to the University of Paris and moved to the famous Hotel Lambert, the 17th-century mansion on the Ile St-Louis, which is one of

the finest private houses in Paris.

Here, they entertained the 1,000-odd
names of the Tout Paris in the Galerie d'Hercule with its Le Brun ceiling. Government ministers, aristocrats, actors, writers and painters dined at the Rothschild table and mingled in the formal classical garden. The Gaullist political elite of the Fifth Republic, notably the Pompidous (her neighbours on the Ile St-Louis) and the Chiracs, were among the regulars on her invitation list.

She was the daughter of the Baron Egmont Van Zuylen van Nyevelt de Haar, a leading Belgian diplomat, and



his Egyptian-born wife, the former had won her first classic in 1953. After Marguerite Nametalla. She was educated at Marymont College in the United States.

Her first marriage was to Comte de Nicolay. After their divorce she married Baron Guy de Rothschild in 1957. They had met at the races at Deauville. He was a prominent owner, while she had her own colours since 1952 and

years for the family as France prospered and the former Rothschild employee Georges Pompidou became first Prime Minister and then President. He and his wife enjoyed the company of the Baronne Marie-Helène with her blonde, bouffant-style The downside for the Rothschild couple came after the Socialist electoral

shunned any form of public flamboy-ance. The 1900s and 1970s were good

victories at the beginning of the 1980)s and the nationalisation of the Rothschild bank. Marie-Hélène followed her husband into golden exile in New York after he had declared that he had been considered "a Jew under Pétain and a pariah under Mitterrand".

They were back in 1985 on the eve of the Conservative victory in the National Assembly. One of her first acts was to throw a large charity ball at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs on the Rue de Rivoli, to which she invited the Chiracs, Nureyev, Yves Saint Laurent and Catherine Deneuve, among

It was a typical Baronne Marie-Helene soirée in that she had organised it all herself — the invitations, the false sky-blue ceiling with embroidered stars, the orange decor, the tableware, above all, the seating arrangements at the 47 tables for ten. The press announced that she was back. Other glittering charity functions followed, one at Versailles itself.

However, times were changing and this kind of activity, although it raised millions of francs for restoring museums and, more importantly, for medical research - the baronne's special interest - was not considered appropriate in a period of recession. In addition, her health, always fragile, began to deteriorate. She lived to see her son Edouard and Guy de Roth-schild's other son, David, by his first marriage restore the Rothschilds banking position.

She and her husband continued to live in the mansion on the island, but built a smaller house on the Ferrières estate. It was there that she died after spending two years on an artificial

The baronne is survived by her husband and her son Edouard.

### PREBENDARY NEWELL WALLBANK

Prebendary Newell Wallbank, Rector of St Bartholomew the Great Smithfield, 1945-79, died on March 3 aged 81. He was born on June 30. 1914.

لعكدا من الاصل

NEWELL WALLBANK served the Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield, in the City of London, for the whole of his active ministry, from ordination in 1937 until his retirement in 1979. He was the inspiration behind its fine musical tradition. He once observed, with typical selfdeprecating humour, that he had really done very little except appoint good organists. Newell Eddius Wallbank

was born in Hexham where his father was organist. The Rector of Hexham Abbey. Canon Edwin Savage, was his godfather. In the Abbey he early absorbed the rich musical tradition of Anglicanism and developed a lasting de-light in historic buildings. He won a music scholarship at St Michael's School, Tenbury. and another at Bloxham. He was music scholar at Queens' College, Cambridge, where he pursued the dominant disciplines of his life, classics and music: he went on to take a DMus at Trinity College, Dublin, because he was too young to take it at Cambridge. and later a PhD, also in music, from London.

After training for the ministry at Ripon Hall, Oxford, he served his title with Canon Savage, who had by then moved to Smithfield. In the fashion of the time. Savage lived in Eastbourne and came up to London at weekends to take services, often having to leave before the end of Evensong to catch the train home. Wallbank did all the pastoral work and through the Blitz he fire-watched at the church,



kicking incendiaries off the roof despite his fear of heights. He returned to the clergy house one day to find it and all his possessions destroyed. In 1945 he succeeded Savage as Rector, despite objections by the Bishop of London, Geoffrey Fisher, that he was too young. The great days of St Bartholomew's began.

Much of the necessary work of restoration, undertaken in these years, was routine and had to do with lighting and hearing; but Wallbank's skills were obvious in both liturgy and music.

The foundation of an outstanding musical tradition was laid when he appointed Paul Steinitz as organist in 1949. After him in 1961 came the immensely talented Brian Brockless and then, 1971-79, Andrew Morris, with whom Walibank enjoyed a particu-larly creative relationship. A large and eclectic congre-

gation was drawn to the Priory Church by good music and intelligent preaching. Regular concerts and music

festivals attracted an international audience. Wallbank also extended the church's life, re-establishing links with St Bartholomew's Hospital, welcoming the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor and the 600 Squadron, and nurturing his livery companies, especially the Butchers and the newly established company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

He played a full part in the life of the City, which made him an Honorary Freeman, and he was three times Lord Mayor's Chaplain. He loved the Priory far too much to accept preferment on the one occasion an archdeaconry was offered him but he was appointed a prebendary of St Paul's Cathedral in 1964.

So much of his life was hidden that few appreciated its depths. He was widely read in all types of literature. He played the piano every day, systematically working through the composers and himself composed a good deal of music. He said Morning and Evening Prayer daily and read weighty theological and spiritual material, and every day did some Latin poetry.

These habitual practices were continued into retirement at Dorney where he offered regular assistance to the local churches; he also prepared confirmation candidates and taught music at Eton College.

He collapsed and died in the Priory Church during the opening moments of the Me-morial Evensong for Brian Brockless (who died in December) at which he was to haver preached. As a friend observed, he never could resist gently upstaging his Directors of Music.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis, whom he married in 1942, and by a daughter and

### CHRISTOPHER HARMER

Christopher Harmer. corporate lawyer and wartime member of M15, died on February 19 aged 85. He was born on November 16, 1910.

QNE of a small group of men working for a secret organisation in the Second World War, Christopher Harmer was among those responsible for recruiting and running double agents feeding false intelligence to the Germans.

He became a master of the art, acquiring more experience than most of his case officer colleagues working for MI5's Section BIA which had been set up by Major "Tar" Robertson. He was involved in some of the great deception missions, including Operation Fortitude, designed both 10 convince the Germans that Allied landings in Europe would be via the Pas de Calais and to mislead them about the strength of forces deployed in Normandy.

Christopher Hedley Harmer was born in London, the second son of an eminent London surgeon. Douglas Harmer. He was educated at Marlborough and King's College, Cambridge, where he graduated with a first in the Law Tripos. He qualified as a solicitor in 1935 and became junior partner in a newlyfounded firm in London. At the outbreak of war in

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1939 he served with the Honourable Artillery Company in charge of an anti-aircraft unit before being recruited into MI5's Section BlA.

In March 1941, in his own words, Harmer was translated overnight from a world of gunpits and army life to an environment of spies and counter-spies. By the time he joined Section BIA, it was controlling a network of enemy agents who had been turned - some by conviction, others by persuasion - to work against their German

masters on Britain's behalf. Among Harmer's cases were the agents codenamed Mutt, Jeff and Brutus, the latter becoming one of the three most important doublecross agents active in Operation Fortitude. With Harmer acting as their controller. Mutt and Jeff, two Norwegians who had been inserted by German seaplane off the west coast of Scotland in April 1941 - and who surrendered on arrival supplied the Germans with naval and military intelligence to sustain the deception about Allied intentions in 1943.

They sent a stream of information about troop movements in Scotland, aimed at persuading the Germans that an invasion of Norway was imminent, when the Allies were actually planning landings in North Africa under Operation Torch.



tee and Section BIA. His role

was to feed back deception

policy on Operation Fortitude

for Section BIA to implement.

on to serve with 21 Army

Group running double agents

in the field in France and

Belgium. For his work in

training American officers in

deception work, he received

the US Bronze Star medal for

"exceptionally meritorious performance of duty in secret

His wartime colleagues

military operations".

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in June 1944, Harmer went

the New York wedding, she took an

interest in the running of the Roth-

schild stable, the Haras de Meautry,

Her effervescence contrasted with

the reserved manner of her husband

and she was, in a sense, the public face

of the French Rothschilds, who

and was often in the winner's enclo-

sure at Longchamp and Deauville.

Brutus, a Polish former fighter pilot, worked for the French Resistance but was betrayed to the Germans who sent him to England to be a double agent, where he turned again and became a successful double-cross agent, initially under Harmer's tutelage.

Harmer was promoted to major in 1944 and continued his distinguished intelligence career on attachment to SHAEF where he acted as link between the Overlord planners and both the XX Commitmarried his wife Peggy, the daughter of Major-General Sir Leslie Phillips.
After leaving MI5 in 1945 Harmer returned to his legal career and chose to work in the Midlands. In 1947 he joined the law firm of Pinsent

described him as a man of

immense imagination and en-

ergy. It was during his years at MI5 that he met and

& Co in Birmingham as a partner and raised it to the status of one of the leading corporate law firms in the country. His clients included some of the major industrial companies of the time like GKN, Tube Investments and Alfred Herbert - all then rooted in the industrial heartland of the West Midlands. His intelligence, creativity

and capacity for work were legendary, as was at times his reputation for frantic departures to the station accompanied by files, secretaries and articled clerks. He was president of the Birmingham Law Society in 1968 during its 150th

anniversary year.
The qualities which marked him out from his professional peer group throughout his career were his wit, humour and breadth of mind. In the three decades up to his retirement in 1975 he was to observe the decline in the industrial manufacturing base of the West Midlands — a process which he felt passionately the Government and industry should seek to reverse.

A great family man and host, he spent his retirement years at Aynho in Northamptonshire where he maintained a number of business interests while indulging his passion for reading, current affairs and music, most notably the works of Elgar. He was for many years vice-chairman of the Elgar Birthplace Trust and Elgar Foundation. He was also a watercolourist in the English tradition.

He is survived by his wife Peggy, and two sons and two daughters.

# WILLIAM BULWER-LONG

William Bulwer-Long, Norfolk landowner and former Jockey Club steward, died from a heart condition on February 25 aged 58. He was born on May 9, 1937.

WILLIAM BULWER-LONG came close to the medieval ideal of the "compleat man". He was a conservationist, a soldier, an accomplished sportsman and rider, and a lover and writer of poetry. But. first and foremost, he was a countryman, and among his many achievements the most important was the restoration of Heydon Hall, his family seat in Norfolk

In the early 1960s this imposing Elizabethan house stood vacant and unkempt with its parklands in a woefu state of decay; indeed, it might have made an excellent film set for Miss Havisham's mansion in David Lean's version of Great Expectations.

In 1962 Bulwer-Long married Sarah Jane Rawiinson, who had been brought up at Heydon Hall, her father having rented it from Bulwer-Long's parents who lived in the village. Together they dreamt of restoring the house, and through sheer hard work eventually turned the dream into reality. At the same time Bulwer-Long doggedly stuck to sound principles of landowning and preservation principles which had nothing

whatever to do with a profit motive. His hedges and watermeadows, contrary to current practice, remained; cottages on the estate were restored and let, not to outsiders, but to young married local people. In the end, the reward was not simply in the pleasure of achievement, but in the village of Heydon being declared in 1971 Norfolk's first conserva-

William Hanslip Bulwer-



Long was the son of Brigadier "Boy" Long and Molly Bul-wer, heiress to the Heydon estate which had come into her family by marriage in the 18th century. He was educated Wellington and Sandhurst and in 1957 was commissioned into the 9th Lancers. He served for ten years, in Germany, Northern Ireland and Aden and as aide-decamp to the GOC Northern Command at York.

In addition to his professional soldiering, Bulwer-Long showed immense enthusiasm as an amateur over a wide spectrum of sporting activities, being chosen for the Army Cresta team in 1961 and representing his regiment at athletics, boxing, rugby and swimming. He was a talented rider, and between 1955 and 1977 (during which time, while at York, he used to ride out for the trainer Mick Easterby) he won 35 point-topoints as well as two races under National Hunt rules, one of them being the Grand Military Hunters' Chase in 1965 on Your Honour. He was, also a good man to hounds. hunting with the Cottesmore and the Quorn.

In 1985 he was elected to the Jockey Club, becoming a steward from 1991 to 1993 as well as a highly enterprising and much-liked chairman of the licensing committee and point-to-point liaison committee in those same years. He was also a director of Newmarket Racecourses Trust and Fakenham Racecourse (his local course) as well as acting as a local steward at Aintree, Cheltenham, Fakenham, Newmarket and Great Yarmouth. Outside racing, Bulwer-

Long's vigorous championship of country ideals (which included writing a weekly column for the Eastern Daily Press) brought him wide rec-ognition. He was High Sheriff of Norfolk from 1988 to 1989 and was made a Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk in 1992. Just before his untimely death, he learnt that he had been awarded the Royal Agricultural Society's Bledisloe gold medal for this year. He leaves his widow, two

sons and a daughter.

# PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS **ANNOUNCEMENTS** ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS Michael Bell profit at 1 (c1967), son of Commander Edmand CAN YOU HELP? We are a lot top, caring couple desperain the caring couple desperain the care of the care of the care of worse fair/authorn hadred, willing thought eggs, shartlined worse are surely a Resonance. IN NEED Please help us que comparaturale para la structed and manadorest patro and depts and these values beares hem deal or an eschesty II. (for sanctury probables clarly frunct weaks or dept, plan i tendantic service as the poorer city arrises. We stray our clar. ere suitable. Regulation regular desers under 35 with bushy. Donallon is anonymous FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES versey. Ligardian is anonymitte. If you can help please call 0171
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### BURGLAR ALARMS.

The Police Committee of the Corporation of London have been thinking about burglar alarms, which make altogether too much noise. Every one who has suffered from an alarm clock knows how unwelcome prolonged buzzing can become, and there will be general sympathy for the Ward of Cripplegate Without which reports the presence of alarms that ring for thirty-six hours on end. Such sustained agitation is bad for the nerves of a neighbourhood, especially at the week-end, when the City is supposed to be quiet.

The City has always shown a keen sense of the rights of property. But it is possible to have too much of a good thing, and word is to be given to the insurance companies that they will do well to be somewhat less overwhelming in their defensive precautions. It is no business of neighbours, of course, what people choose to keep and guard, but a great deal of scepticism has been aroused, and there are plenty of people to say that there are limits to the noise you

### ON THIS DAY

March 9, 1931

Noisy burglar alarms are by no means a recent problem. They were making life difficult for neighbours 60 years ago. The writer suspected housebreakers were happy to work on amid the din.

can make in defending your possessions. After all, burglars work well in a din. and nothing stifles the sound of a safe being cracked like a row of alarms ringing in adjoining houses and shops.

Burglars work very quietly these days, and have found a new ally in condensed milk which can be spread over glass to deaden the sound of cutting, and it is something of a problem how to encourage them to make more noise. Alarms that ring in the street frighten everybody. including the burglars, and justice is not

done. It would be very much better if burglar alarms were content to follow the practice of ordinary electric bells and to ring where they were wanted, in this case inside the nearest police station. The burglar, not knowing whether he had rung an alarm or not, would continue his leisurely depredation until he was caught red-handed. The neighbourhood would sleep on undisturbed, and the police would find the police station a quiet and pleasant place in proportion as there were no burglars in the district and no jarring bells.

Perhaps the day will come when all houses, or at any rate all houses built under public schemes, will have not only water and light laid on, but will also be connected with the local police station by

an alarm. The only thing that will be sacrificed is the vanity which makes people like to go away for the week-end leaving the burglar alarm ringing that their neighbours may never be allowed to forget what very valuable possessions are

being guarded with so much noise.

### NEWS

### Mortgage price war intensifies

■ The mortgage price war intensified yesterday after the Chancellor announced his third interest rate cut in four months. High Street lenders led by the Halifax, the biggest building society, immediately shaved a quarter of a percentage point off their home loan rates to about 7.25 per cent. But the Bradford & Bingley reduced one of its variable rates to 6 per centPages 1, 21

### Pigeon fancier raids Trafalgar Square

■ A dearth of woodpigeons before Christmas is likely to have triggered the theft of feral birds from Trafalgar Square. Police hunting a man who is believed to have trapped and carried away 4,000 of the square's birds were told yesterday the urban poacher may have found a ready market ...... Pages 1, 5, 21

### Scots tax block

Labour will block a new Scottish Parliament from raising . Page 1

### Cricket, lovely cricket Almost a billion Indians and Pakistanis - a fifth of the world's population - focus on the cricket world cup .... ... Pages L 2L 48 **Snub for Adams**

Senator Edward Kennedy has refused to see Gerry Adams when the Sinn Fein president arrives in Washington. .. Page 2

### 'Devil' woman Caroline Beale, 32, may have believed she was possessed by the

devil when she killed her baby in New York, said her psychiatrist as the civil servant returned to

**Lung donors** Two people have given part of their lungs to save a dying girl in the first British operation involv-

### Threat to Aviemore

Aviemore ski centre may be forced to close after conservationists blocked a E17 million plan to build the highest railway station in Britain in the Cairngorms ..... Page 8

### Referendum row

Kenneth Clarke and John Major were at odds over a referendum on a single European currencyPage 9

### Bosnia mass killer A former Croat soldier in the Bos-

nian Serb Army has confessed to participating in the massacre of Muslim civilians.... .... Page !! China missiles

China launched three ballistic missiles off Taiwan, spreading alarm across East Asia and

### Victory for Dole

Driven by the powerful juggernaut of the Republican Party, Robert Dole routed his competitors in ing living lung donors ...... Page 4 the New York primary ..... Page 15

### Researchers called to the bar

Academics are to carry out a long term study into heavy drinking with the help of a £433,278 Government grant and 500 

## NATIUTRIE NOTUES Police are investigating the myst-erious disappearance of hundreds of pigeons from Trafalgar Square. A man has been seen trapping up to 40 a day by luring them into boxes baited with crumbs. He claims they are for racing, but he is more likely to be selling them for pies.. News item

### OPINION

Never had it so good: Why do homeowners remain so sullen in the face of the Government's attempts to stuff their pockets? ..... Page 21

Beyond the boundary: India and Pakistan face each other in the quarter-finals of the World Cup: part cricket and part war .... ... Page 21 The pigeon pieman cometh:

Supermarkets and packaged food have estranged carnivo-. Page 21 rous eating.

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### COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Lotteries are the way of the world. But we should stop pretending that they have anything to do with risk, capitalism or priva-

. Page 20 Mary Ann Sieghart: Wete my daughters in their late teens, I would certainly want them to see Kids ..... Page 20

### OBITUARIES Baronne Maire Hélène de

Rothschild; Prebendary Newell Wallbank, Rector of St Bartholomew the Great: Christopher Harmer, wartime member of M15Page 23

### BUSINESS

Jobs: Britain's largest computer company, ICL, reported a £188 million pre-tax loss and said it would cut up to 1.000 jobs ..... .... Page 25

Departures: Two senior executives resigned from BAT and Sainsbury in moves that could trigger payouts of up to El million each ...... Page 25 Lloyd's: Lloyd's dispatched letters to 34,000 members, with estimates of how much they will have to pay to settle their debts..... ..... Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 47.9 points to close at

### AHIS.

Evre of calm: Trevor Nunn.

appointed to run the National Theatre, would do well to entulate the methods of his predecessor, says Richard Morrison .. .. Page 17 Crusoe twisted: Theatre de Complicite's latest production is Foe, an updating of Robinson Crusoe ..... Page 17 Turner revealed: The Tate Gallery has mounted an ex-

CAR 96 Winning Formula: Fans

Studiorum ...

### SPORT

Cricket: Dominic Cork was ruled out of England's World Cup quarter-final against Sri Lanka by a knee injury ...... Page 48 Football: The final Premiership games have again been delayed 24 hours for live television coverage. They will be played on May 5...Page 48 Rugby union: England

hibition of Turner's Liber are unchanged against .. Page 19 Ireland but there are doubts about Dean Richards. Wales have dropped Arwel Thomas against .... Page 45 gear up for the new season

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Jester: Who is the real Clive Anderson?. Page 12 Barking mad: Robert Crampton collars dog owners ....

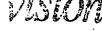
### WEEKEND

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Win: a trip to the premiere of Toy Story ......Page 3 Morning star: how Mark Little made it ...... Page 14





Cover story: Joan Collins's real-life drama, Court TV, Saturday, BBC2 Film: Hannah and Her Sisters, Sunday, BBC1

Sunny

NOON TODAY

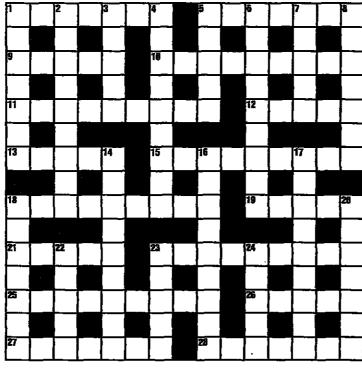
### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,111

A limited edition, 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO

Box 486, Virginia Street, London El 9DD. The winners and solution will

Name/Address

be published next Saturday.



DOWN

light? Not he! (7).

meanness (9). 5 Fellow's suit (5).

head (9).

Arouse it and it'll eat wildly (9).

6 Rigidity shown in second row with

Celebrate lifting of prize in Amer-

Most generous and, to some

14 As divine female, I'm the one to

16 Island's legislative assembly in America (3.6).

17 Financially far-sighted, having

18 Detectives, following young crea-

22 Finishing as you began, you stop

23 British people provide support (5). 24 Rocket launchers signal, finally, with sound of hooter (5).

expert see books (9).

ture up. relaxed (7). 20 It runs fast and sharp, we hear (7).

when it's dawn (5).

extent, popular gesture (7).

King James, for example (5).

4 Standard ecclesiastical sin

### **ACROSS**

- I Relish boat getting in winning
- position (7).

  5 Having defective hearing, one abandoned the blower (7). 9 In which three couples get to-
- gether for sex (5).

  10 Dog is sort of terrier? Vet's entry is not conclusive (9).
- 11 Medusa's a sweet person! (9). 12 A self-treatment for invalid (5).
- 13 Cause of ferment as yet unsettled
- 15 Immediately at the scene of the action (2,3,4). 18 Tyre feels damaged, all-in (9).
- 19 Thus about to become indifferent to pain (5). 21 He told stories about river and
- 23 One beret I recollected as object of particular loathing (4.5).
- 25 Showing agreement? Not I. for
- 26 Within a month, wife cleaned up
- 27 Remove outside page it's empty
- 28 Irregular mark for American's therne in school (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,105

I E NAWAE V A N A SPECTATION LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: G Taylor, Henfield, West Sussex; P Donovan, London: A and J Asion Smith, Oxford: D Lawrence. Cheltenhum, Gloucestershire: A Rankin Banchory, Kincardineshire:

Solution to Puzzle No 20,110 CREASED 

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Life
King's Lymn
Leith
Liverpool
Lowestoft
Maroaite 4.6 6.6 6.6 3.7 5.2 1.8 4.5 6.1 4.0 5.2 4.1 HIGHEST & LOWEST

### **FORECAST**

General: England and Wales will become drier with bright spells as a band of rain moves north into Scotland. There will be a few showers, with the sunniest interludes likely in Scotland and Northern Ireland will

have showers. Outbreaks of showery rain and snow will spread north. The northwest and much of Northern Ireland will be brighter, with scattered showers. Rain will spread into west Scotland and Northern Ireland later. London, SE England, Cent S, SW, NW England, Midlands, Channel Isles, Wales: Mostly bright with surny spells, occasional showers. Wind southeast light or moderate. Max 8C (46F).

☐ E Anglia, E, Cent N, NE England, Lakes, IoM, Borders, SW developing with some sunshine. Wind

0 07

southeast light, occasionally mod-erate. Max 5C to 7C (41F to 45F). ☐ Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Cent Highlands: Outbreaks of rain or snow, snow mainly on hills. Wind southeast light. occasionally moderate. Max 5C to 7C (41F to 45F).

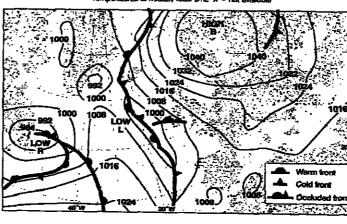
Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Dry start. Outbreaks of rain or snow later; snow mainly on hills. Wind southeast light or moderate. Max 6C (43F). Argyli, NW Scotland, N Ireland: Bright spells, scattered showers. Rain later. Wind southeast fresh. Max 7C

Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, showers of rain or steet. Wind southeast fresh or strong, locally gale force. Max 6C (43F). ☐ Outlook: Scattered showers. with bright spells.

## AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

43 48 45 0.11 0.10 0.05 0.13 0 36 0.26

45 43 39 45 43 0.09 0.51 0.59 ABROAD Corfu Criveger Dublin Dubrover Faro Horence Francher Geneva Gibratter Heistend Hong K Istanbul Jeddah Jorburg Karachi L Angeles L Palimas Le Tquet Lisbon Malaga Mala Mala Mala Malaga Milan Mosesa Milan Mosesa Mos



Changes to the chart above from noon; high B will remain tairly stationary and maintain it central pressure. Low R will push northeast and deepen. Low L will head north and fill

# ROUGH

Sunny intervals Cloudy 📤 Drizzie Overcast Rein Sleet and Steer and Sunny showers

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BUSINES TOD

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hodinaca. Usida Usida

Lightning

# Wind speed (mph) & direction Sea

# TORONTO WITH NIAGARA

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• Orient-Express from Southampton to Victoria £2,499

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**MELVYN MARCKUS 26** 

Our City Editor on Tiny Rowland's share sale



### **WORKING WEEK 27**

Double-barrelled tour de force for British tourism



**SPORT 43-48** 

Cork's withdrawal robs England attack of sparkle

HIDDEN ASSETS AT THE BANK **OF ENGLAND** Page 27

**BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook** 

SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996



Blind faith: Hamish Grossart, left, chairman of Eclipse Blinds, and Bill MacDonald, managing director, celebrate a 29 per cent advance in pre-tax profits, to £4.54 million, and a return to dividends with a final payout of lp for the year to December 31, reflecting a strong recovery

# Slump on Wall Street overshadows rate cut

By Janet Bush in London and Richard Thomson in New York

¿LONDON'S financial markets showed scarcely any reaction to the widely expected quarter-point cut in hase rates, to 6 per cent, sideways by a shock wave of selling on Wall Street.

The Bank of England announced the cut in base rates during its routine money market operations yesterday. The move had been expected after Thursday's monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank. Then, Wall Street reacted

BUSINESS **TODAY** 

STOC BEIC	K MARKE Es	
FT-SE 100	3710.3	(-47.9)
	3,98% 1839,04 20155,87 (-	(~19.94) +198.72)
New York; Dow Jones S&P Composite	5580.28 ( 644.63	
Ferioral Francis	E1_44*	(F2-96)

London 1.5241 (1.5305) 2.2667 (2.2637) 7.7650 (7.7510) 1.8382 (1.8389) 161.44 (161.21)

1.4870\* (1.4764) 5.0920\* (5.0505) 1.2060\* (1.1995) 105.93\* (105.30)

Brent 15-day (May) \$17.25 (\$17.45)

London close ..... \$395.25 (\$394.05)

denotes midday trading price

### ' Granada deal

Granada yesterday clinched its first big disposal since the £3.9 billion acquisition of Forte in January when it agreed a £122 million deal to sell the White Hart chain of hotels to Regal. The number of Regal hotels will rise from 22 | criticism of levels of boardroom pay. Mr Page 26 | Greener, who joined BAT five years ago

dramatically to news that the US economy had generated 705,000 new non-agricultural jobs in February, the biggest increase in any month for 12 years. The unemployment rate dropped snarply from 5.8 per cent in January to 5.5 per cent in February, which economists said virtually ruled out a further cut in US interest rates. Many had expected another cut at the meeting of

the Federal Open Market Committee on March 26. Within minutes of the figures, the price of the 30-year benchmark Treasury bond slumped by three points. This triggered a collapse in the Dow Jones industrial average, which plunged by more than 100 points in the first 15 minutes of trading.

By early afternoon, the Dow

had recovered a little to stand 72.25 lower, at 5,569.44. In London, the FT-SE 100 index closed down 47.9, at 3,710.3, having been 72 points lower at its worst levels of the day. London markets drew little comfort from yesterday's rate cut, given events in the US. European markets, too, were caught in the downdraught.

After the base rate change was announced, Mr Clarke said that he was confident that the cut. the third quarterpoint cut since December. would not jeopardise the Government's inflation target. He noted that the economy is growing below trend, with activity abroad contributing to weakness, and that this should continue to exert downward pressure on inflation. Several City analysts have

in base rates, perhaps to as one of the helpful factors in the background had been the prospect of rates falling overseas, notably in Germany and America. Now, some are arguing that US rates have bottomed out.

The 705,000 rise in jobs was about twice what Wall Street economists had expected. It was a difficult figure to call because of blizzards and government shutdowns over the US budget impasse, which led to an alarmingly weak picture for jobs in December and January. Until yesterday's fig-ures, which coincided with another blizzard engulfing New York, it was guesswork whether the weakness was fundamental or simply due to

these one-off factors. The latter appears to have been the case. William Sullivan, money market analyst for Dean Witter, the broking firm, said: "This is outright panic." He concluded that the US economy is acceler ating, that falling unemploy-ment means a build-up of pay pressures and that this is likely

to lead to higher inflation. Others, however, pointed out that other indicators of the state of the US economy had not shown the strength seen in yesterday's labour market figures. The most recent report, from US purchasing manag-ers, painted a weak picture, as did the Conference Board and various surveys of activity in the jobs market.

> Lenders act, page 29 Anne Ashworth, page 31

# Debt estimates in the post for 34,000 Lloyd's names

LLOYD'S of London finally dispatched letters last night to 34,000 anxious names, providing them with estimates of how much they will have to pay to settle finally all their debts with the society.

Lloyd's, which has lost more than £8 billion in the past five years, is offering names a £2.8 billion settlement package in a bid to put its problems firmly in the past. David Rowland, chairman

of the society, said: "I think that everyone concerned with this society wants to bring this episode to an end." The indicative statements provide estimates of a name's

finality" bill after deducting their share of the settlement For most names the finality bill will not exceed £100,000 over and above their funds at Lloyd's. And for an estimated

half of the 34,000 names the



Rowland: 'end of an episode'

underwriting.

bill will not exceed their funds at Lloyd's, which are the assets held to support a name's The statements are only estimates and the final figures

are due at the end of May.

However, for 95 per cent of

names the variation between

£15,000. To help those names unable to pay their bills, Lloyd's has set aside about £150 million, called Tranche 4. To apply for a share names have to provide details of their financial position. There are no firm rules on

the two bills will be limited to

what a name's financial position needs to be to qualify but a Lloyd's spokesman said yesterday: "The arrangements will be an improvement on Hardship (the market's former bankruptcy scheme)." Names can also pay their bills in instalments and, for those who risk losing their

homes. Lloyd's is trying to put

together a special mortgage

Names will vote on whether to accept the £2.8 billion offer, based on the final statements, at the annual meeting of

Lloyd's on July 15. Weekend money, page 38

### Halifax ends Warburg role in float

THE Halifax Building Society has abruptly replaced SBC Warburg as corporate finance adviser to its £9 billion stock market flotation (Anne Ashworth writes). Deutsche Morgan Grenfell was named yesterday as the new adviser.

Behind the society's move lay the departure of two key individuals working on the Halifax conversion. Anthony Brookes went to BZW, and Derek Higgs left for the Pru-dential. The society also cited a "potential conflict of interest".

David Gilchrist, of the Halifax, said the society started to become concerned about its relationship with SBC Warburg several months ago. "The conversion will be a longrunning and complex transaction. We want ... a commitment to continuity."

The society added that there would be no delay in the float scheduled for summer 1997.

# Resigned to the prospect of £1m

By Jon Ashworth

TWO senior UK executives resigned yesterday in moves that could trigger payouts of up to El million each. George Greener quit abruptly as head of BAT Industries financial services operations, which include Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star, while David Quarmby stepped down as joint managing director of J Sainsbury, the latest of several management changes at the supermarket group. Both men were on two-year rolling contracts and could win compensation of

up to El million each, further stoking

after 20 years with Mars, the confectionery group, earned £852,885 in salary. bonuses and pension contributions in 1994, the latest figures available.

BAT said that Mr Greener was resigning as chief executive of BAT UK Financial Services and as chairman of Allied Dunhar. Eagle Star and Threadneedle Asset Management "by mutual consent". The move comes two days after BAT announced a sweeping review of its UK financial services operations.

The company insisted the parting was amicable, in spite of talk of a personality clash between Mr Greener and Martin Broughton, chief executive of BAT. Compensation has yet to be agreed but

the company expects to settle for less than the two-year term of Mr Greener's contract. Mr Greener is replaced by Sandy Leitch, Allied Dunbar's chief

Mr Quarmby, 54, leaves Sainsbury's at the end of next month. He earned £450,000 last year, including benefits and pension contributions. David Sainsbury, chairman, accepted his resignation "with regret", adding: "I respect his wish to pursue other interests." Mr Quarmby's decision comes soon after a series of board changes, in which he was given the lesser role of managing director of group services and business development at the

### ICL cuts 1,000 jobs in shake-up

By Sarah Cunningham

ICL, Britain's largest computer company, yesterday report-ed a £188 million pre-tax loss and said it will quit manufacturing and restructure as a systems and services company, cutting up to 1,000 jobs. The company, 84 per cent owned by Japan's Fujitsu, said that revenues increased 17 per cent, to £3.1 billion, but £152 million of one-off charges relating to the restructuring, together with a £3! million operating loss caused by in-creased competition, pushed it

million a year earlier. Fujitsu cuts its group net profit forecast from 90 billion yen to 65 billion yen, citing the

into the red after a profit of £28

ICL plans a E200 million rights issue in June, underwritten by Fujitsu, which Northern Telecont, holder of the remaining 15 per cent of its stock, may also take up. Keith Todd, ICL's chief executive, said the group will return to

Under the restructuring, ICL's personal computer production unit, which employs demerged into a joint venture, with Fujitsu as major shareholder. It has yet to be named ue to be branded Fujitsu/ICL

ICL also plans to spin off D2D, its contract manufacturing division which employs 2,200, and is looking for a partner. ICL will use D2D. which is already a major supplier to other computer tor. ICL's staff will fall from

24,000 to about 19,000. It aims to improve earnings by expanding its software and interactive services divisions. Fujitsu, which paid £743 mil-lion in 1990 for its stake in ICL, had expected to be able to float ICL by 1995. ICL now says flotation is its aim, but says that it is too early to predict when it will happen.

# **WEEKEND**



Anne Ashworth on the National & Provincial small print

Index tracker

funds.The Branson effect



was heusing



To rent or to buy? A comparison of the costs

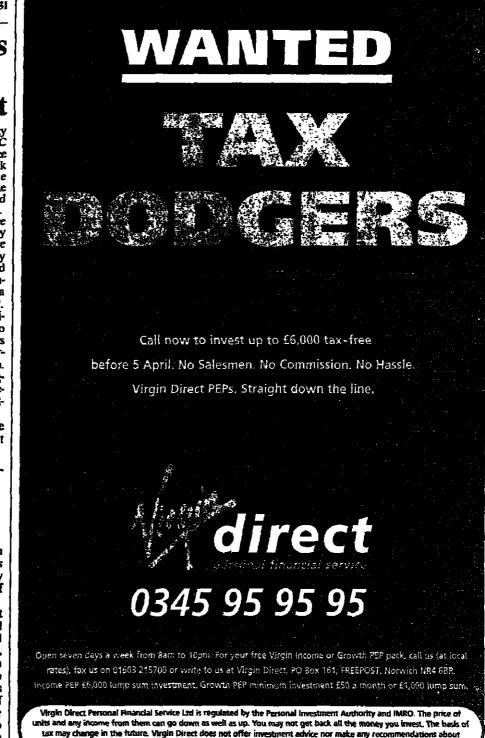
LLOYD'S OF LONDON 🚜

The price of leaving the past behind

INSIONS GUIDE



Part 2. Are you contributing enough?



tments. We only market our own products. For your security, all telephone calls to Virgin Direct will be recorde

### Housing slide hits Hambro

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE cost of assimilating 300 extra branches into its estate agency chain caused losses at Hambro Country-wide to deepen to £3.89 million (£3.86 million loss) for the year to December 31. Harry Hill, managing

director, admitted he had not expected a further slide in the housing market when his firm bought the estate agency arm of the Nationwide Building Society for El in October 1994. However, after a first-half loss of £5.82 million. Hambro made a pre-tax profit of £1.93 million in the six months to December. While Inland Revenue fig-ures show house sales fell by II per cent, Mr Hill said Countrywide suffered a fall

of only 1.8 per cent. The estate agency, which has 740 offices, the largest chain in the UK, reported a 25 per cent increase in newly agreed house sales in January and February, compared with the same period last year. Countrywide arranged 21,662 mort-gages worth £969 million.

The loss per share in-creased to 2.16p from 1.83p and no dividend will be paid (1994: 0.05p). Total turnover increased to £151 million (El06 million). The estate agency division caused the greatest loss at E21 million (£6 million

Tempus, page 28 Weekend Money, pages 29 and 34

# Granada agrees to sell White Hart hotels to Regal

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

GRANADA yesterday clinch-ed its first big disposal since the E3.9 billion acquisition of Forte in January when it agreed a £122 million deal to sell the White Hart chain of

hotels to Regal. The acquisition will increase the hotels under Regal's control from 22 to 82. had provisionally Regal agreed the purchase of the chain with Forte, in a cash and shares deal, before the Granada takeover. The deal with Granada is understood to be all cash and excludes seven hotels in the original nackage. Regal will use a mixture of

ENNEMIX yesterday hit back

at the £5.8 million takeover

offer from Redland, the build-

ing materials company, de-scribing the offer as oppor-

The troubled aggregrates

company urged its sharehold-

ers to reject the 32p a share

bid, which it claimed was at a

37.5 per cent discount to its

revised net asset value of 50p a

share. Ennemix also revealed

that gearing has been re-

tunistic and derisory".

debt and equity to fund the purchase and hoped to make an announcement "reasonably quickly" to shareholders on the structure of the deal's financing. A rights issue is likely to double capitalisation to £80 million, but Regal said it had the support of its big shareholders and bankers to proceed. Regal shares were suspended at 440 after the earlier Forte agreement. Granada preserves an opt-out in the agreement should Regal run into financ-

ing problems. Charles Vere Nicoll, chief executive, said that the com-

duced, to 37.5 per cent, and

wage costs cut, including a

Redland bought a 30 per

cent stake in Ennemix in

December and made an agree-ment with the seller, Nash

Sells, the venture capital group, not to raise its bid

above 35p for at least six

months. The shares closed

The company also unveiled

yesterday unchanged at 35p.

a full-year loss of £585,000.

drop in boardroom salaries.

**Ennemix rejects bid** 

as opportunistic

By Alasdair Murray

chain has been absorbed."

hotel chains and the 68 per cent stake in the Savoy. Regal also unveiled its full-

and Chelsea hotels in London, and has a 42 per cent stake in the Plaza Hotel, New York.

Tempus, page 28

pany, which has doubled in size each year since it was founded three years ago. would now concentrate on absorbing the new hotels. He said: "We are going to have to take stock and I will not proceed with more growth

until the results prove the Granada is keen to sell a number of assets acquired in the Forte takeover, including the Meridien and Exclusive

year results yesterday with profits rising 400 per cent to £2.9 million on turnover up 230 per cent at £18.1 million. The company announced its first ever dividend of 0.5p, to

be paid on Jime I.

CDI, the Hong Kong hotel company, is aiming next month to float about 40 per cent of Millennium & Cop-thorne, its UK subsidiary, in London CDL is hoping to raise about £150 million from the float, which will value the chain at £350 million. About £100 million of the proceeds will be used to reduce Millennium's debt. Millennium owns 23 business hotels in Europe and America, including the Gloucester, Bailey's

support firms sold Two more companies that maintain the rail network

Two rail

were yesterday sold to two joint ventures.

A link between GEC Alsthom and Tarmac bought the largest, covering the central area of the country, for £18.8 million while a joint venture between Amey and the man-agement of the western divi-

sion at Swindon bought that

area's maintenance company

### Water talks

for £15 million.

Speculation continued in the City yesterday that a US company, believed to be California Water Services, is to move on South West Water early next week. Meanwhile Wessex Water, which announced a proposed bid for South West, and the target company remained locked in talks with their merchant banks.

### Full throttle

Malaya Group, the motor distributor, raised full-year pre-tax profits 283 per cent to £2.09 million (£617,000) in the year to December 31. Turnover advanced to £315 million (£170 million). The final dividend of 0.33p, payable May 21, gives a total of 0.66p (0.4p) for the year, from earnings of 0.96p (0.62p) a share.

### Litho ahead

Litho. the printing industry supplier, raised pre-tax profits 24 per cent to £6.6 million in the year to December 31. Turnover rose 5 per cent to £65 million. The total dividend rises 11 per cent to 7.6p with a final divid-end of 4.64p payable on May 30.

# Bid rumours swirl as Tiny sells out

t was on Thursday that The Times let it be known L that Tiny Rowland, someone who requires little introduction, had decided to sell a near 6 per cent share stake in Lonrho, the multinational conglomerate he created, to Dieter Bock, the company's chief executive. Rowland's share sale relates to a "put" and "call" arrangement struck in December 1992,

joint chief executive. I well recall interviewing Rowland and Bock at the onset of their corporate honey-

when Mr Bock joined Lonrho

to work alongside Rowland as

MM: How will the joint roles work? How do you envisage dividing responsibilities? Rowland: There will not be any clear cut division of responsibilities. Think of us

as indivisible. Bock: It is important that we have a constant dialogue in order to reach decisions together. We have identical interests, the interests of the company. I cannot see the possibility of any conflict of interest between us.

Since then, much water has passed and many quotations. Niceties gave way to not so niceties. It was Rowland (who else?) who felt compelled to declare, coursesy of The Sunday Times: "I am a fully paidup member of this country's Inland Revenue club. I have always paid my tax in this country. Mr Bock, however, doesn't own a single asset in his own name, except his bicycle - and perhaps his wife. Many businessmen, after telephone conversations with scribes, have a habit of telephoning back to emphasise that certain statements are off the record. Rowland, uniquely, has a habit of telephoning back to emphasise that remarks, such

record. Bock, Lonrho's largest shareholder, with an 18.6 per cent stake acquired at an average price of 93p, waved in a bery of non-executive directors (anathema to Rowland) and launched coups. First against Rowland's closest

TOURIST RATES

as the above, are on the

as Rene Leclezio, Robert Dunlop and Paul Spicer (dubbed the pensioners then against Rowland. The first, in the autumn of 1904, failed: the second left Rowland with the prospect of jetting between assets as president and the third brought about his unceremonious dismissal last

in the event, Rowland has lost little time in exercising his "put" on Bock. Although the option arrangement dates back to 1992, it did not come into play until December 9. 1995. As of then, either party could enforce a share sale over a period of 12 months. Official confirmation came by way of a brief statement that Yeoman Investments (Rowland's vehicle) had informed



**MELVYN MARCKUS** 

Laerstate BV (Bock's Netherlands registered vehicle) on Tuesday of its intentions to sell 45.5 million shares representing 5.85 per cent of the equity. The price has been struck at 200.36p. based on recent market averages.

Indications from the Lonrho camp are that Bock has the finance in place to complete the transaction, possibly next week. It should be borne in mind that Bock and Rowland harbour deep suspicions over the calibre of each other's finances. Lonrho's directors, ever fearful that Tiny's hand might rise and smite their "normalisation" process in some vengeful and extraordinary way, are reputed to be delighted: the theory being that Rowland, minus

0.537 2.457 2.19 9.63

5.85 per cent in exchange for f91 million, casts a shorter chadow than before.

Rowland, for his part, claims that the "sex" has gone out of Lonrho and has timed his sale to illustrate his implacable opposition to the company's proposed merger of its platinum interests with Gencor's Impala Platinum. Rowland insists that the floration of Lonrho's platinum operations would have vielded greater value. Such views received scant support at last week's AGM, where Rowland, through a spokesman, alleged that Bock did not spend sufficient time on Lonrho's business. Sir John Leahy, the former ambassador to South Africa, who now chairs Lonrho, pointed out that since Mr Bock became Lonrho's chief executive, profits had increased from £59 million to £161 million, while the share price had risen from 75p to 192½p.

Bock's shareholding in Lonrho will rise to close on 25 per cent but the message is that no placing of Rowland's stake is imminent. Rowland is said to be keeping a watchful eve on Sir Rocco Forte's return to the hotel scene, but in reality harbours an interest in the Savoy's establishments. As he recently put it: "I wouldn't require a partner to purchase the Savoy."

James Capel, which happens to be Lonrho's stockbroker, opined in January that the proposed demerger "constitutes an imaginative step towards crystallising and releasing the underlying value in Lonrho shares". According to Capel, the "aggregate un-derlying value" of Loncho's paper is in the region of 247p. Lonrho's quote, currently 191p, recently touched 21712p as speculation mounted that, come a demerger. Lonrho Mining could well attract a full-scale takeover bid from the likes of Anglo-American or Gencor. What should not be ruled out is the likelihood of offers for Lonrho's mining operations before the much heralded demerger. Rowland, incidentally, has retained some 3 million shares.

THE SUNDAYTIMES

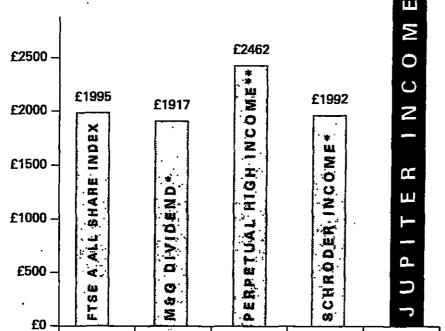
By agreeing the largest

merger in corporate history, Ciba and Sandoz

threw the drugs industry into turmoil. British companies may be forced to react . . . 9

Business - The Sunday Times tomorrow

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# Barclays Bank PLC.

Interest Rates for Business Customers, Charities and Societies with effect from 8th March 1996.

ACCOUNT TITLE	†GROSS	*NET
•	RATE	RATE
	(% P.A.)	(% P.A.
BUSINESS PREMIUM ACCOUNT. (Rates also apply to		
Farmers Premium Account) - instant access.		
£250,000 – £1 million	3.375	2,531
£100,000 - £249,999	3.250	2.438
£25,000 - £99,999	3.000	2,250
<u>C</u> 2,000 - <u>C</u> 24,999	2.500	1.875
£500 - £1,999	2.125	1.594
LO - L499	2.125	1.594
HIGH INTEREST BUSINESS ACCOUNT - 14 days' notice.	<del>                                     </del>	
£250,000 +	4.750	3.563
£100,000 - £249,999	4.625	3.469
£25,000 - £99,999	4.375	3.281
£10,000 - £24,999	3.875	2.906
L2,000 - L9,999	3.125	2.344
CLIENT'S PREMIUM ACCOUNT	†—— <u> </u>	_
£1 million +	4.125	3.094
£250,000 - £999,999	4,000	3.000
£100,000 – £249,999	3.875	2.906
£25,000 – £99,999	3,500	2.625
£10,000 - £24,999	3.250	2.438
BARCLAYS COMMUNITY ACCOUNT. (An interest bearing	╅╾╌┪	<del></del>
current account for clubs, charities, churches and societies	1	
No minimum balance. Interest paid quarterly.	1 1	
(25,000 +	2.000	1.500
£10,000 - £24,999	1.500	1.125
£5,000 - £9,999	1.000	0.750
<u> </u>	0.750	0.563
SEVEN DAY DEPOSIT ACCOUNT. (A seven days' notice	<del>                                     </del>	
account.) No minimum balance. Interest paid half-yearly.	0.500	0.375

† GROSS RATE is the communical rate of interest payable not taking account of the deduction

BARCLAYS

Monday 🔟 **Wednesday** Thursday Friday U

has spent a week in Blackpool, a long Lake District, a week at Center days on the Isle of Skye and a

Parcs. week on the north coast of Devon all in the name of work. But then, as Britain's ambassa-

dor for tourism in her role as chairwoman of both the English Tourist Board and the British Tourist Authority, taking a British holiday is part of the job. She even has a signed certificate on her wall proclaiming she has spent a night at a caravan park. She is very proud of it.

"It was my first time and I enjoyed it so much I'd do it again," 6 I am the only she says. It is a person I know far cry from the who sightsees land she partand stays in visits with her husband and 12lovely places as year-old son. part of my job ? Her office is in a tower block in

the centre of Hammersmith in west London. and a long way from the picture postcard images of the capital that have so successfully lured foreign tourists to our shores.

Last Wednesday Ms Biss and Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for National Heritage, met at Madame Tussaud's - one of the UK's most popular fee-charging tourist attractions — to brief travel journalists on the success of the BTA's marketing campaign.

in 1995 overseas visitors to Britain totalied 23.6 million, a rise of 12 per cent on the previous record of 21 million set in 1994. Between them they spent £11.7 billion.

Yesterday she flew back from Madrid after meeting the travel trade at celebrations to mark 30 years of a BTA presence in Spain. Earlier in the week she had met the Museums and Galleries Commission to discuss ways of using British culture to ture foreign visitors to our shores. Over the coming weeks she will be helping

ADELE BISS the industry to prepare for the allimportant start to the holiday season over the Easter weekend.

Her role as chairwoman of the BTA and ETB involves two to three days' work every week, for which she is paid £41,000, although meetings and travel inevitably take up more of her time. She was appointed joint chairman of the ETB and BTA in 1994 after the Department of National Heritage had spent several months searching for a replacement for Bill

When not discussing the future of British tourism and haranguing Treasury ministers to take her industry seriously, she pursues her other interests as a governor of Middlesex University, a non-executive director of Harry Ramsden's

(the Yorkshire fish and chip emporium), and a non-executive director of Eurooean Passenger Services. One subject that she refuses

to discuss is the impact of the recent IRA bombs on British tourism, fearing that her comments might be misinterpreted. "I did five

press interviews in Madrid and not a single journalist asked about it," she says. "I don't think it is helpful to discuss it."

The BTA's official line on the bombings is that they have made very little difference to bookings or inquiries to overseas offices. Incoming tour operators tell a different story, however. Richard Cail, operations director of JAC Travel, one of the UK's biggest incoming tour operators, said that immediately after the Docklands bomb a number of American holiday groups cancelled or asked to be transferred out of London to re-

She is also reluctant to talk about herself, although she lets slip that she has recently learnt to ride a bicycle, which will be useful, no doubt, for pedalling through English country lanes. At 51 she spends more than an hour every Saturday morning putting herself through a punishing aerobics class, and has a



Travel agent: Adele Biss, whose marketing campaigns seek to portray the best of Britain

swimming lesson once a week. The view from her office on the tenth floor is of the Hammersmith flyover and Wormwood Scrubs prison. Roadworks rumble away below while she expounds the virtues of new technology and fiddles with her hair as the photographer snaps away.
"I've been learning to use the

word processor, but I had to teach myself to type first," she says. "So I was sitting with the instruction tape on full volume at 8.30am tapping in JJJ JDJ DJD.\*

This was before she chaired a meeting of tourist board heads and. met me for coffee. Her office is smali, neat and ordered, like herself. She admits that being

thrust into the limelight as the public image of tourism in Britain two-and-a-half years ago something of a shock.

"For the first photocall on the day became chairman, the Department of National Heritage wanted to invite a few journalists for a briefing at the secretary of state's office. I thought that would be a bit

of tourism and suggested a photoshoot on a red London bus. In the end, it was decided I should pose in front of the Horse Guards and I remember standing there in front of a wall of cameras with the photographers shouting: 'Just a little closer to the horse, please, Ms Biss'. There were lots of tourists taking pictures as well - they must have thought I was a celebrity. But i was edging closer and closer to the horse's teeth, and I am rather scared of horses."

لعكدا من الأحل

She escaped unscathed and spent the rest of her first year travelling around Britain sampling domestic tourism and using half-term holidays with her son to experience the traditional seaside delights of Blackpool. She claims that when she travels she is rarely off-duty and takes every opportunity to chat to fellow tourists: "I am the only person I know who goes sightseeing and staying in lovely places as part of my job, and I like to know what other people think about the

On one such occasion she joined, uninvited. a party of Ameriinterviews IRA London Bridge. bombs weren't and was forced to identify herself after the tour mentioned. It's guide accused her of trying to tag along for free. Ms Biss never

the economic advantages of tourism, which is now worth £36 billion to the UK economy, generating about £100 million in revenues every day, and

1.5 million jobs. Nevertheless, she has found it difficult to convince the Treasury and opinion-formers that tourism is as important an industry as financial services or motor manufacturing.

Over the past five years grant-inaid for the ETB has been cut and half its 122 staff have gone. Fewer have been cut from the BTA, which is responsible for selling Britain to

the overseas market. In spite of these setbacks she has initiated a series of marketing campaigns to try to make the best of Britain. One of the first, the Seaside campaign, aimed to per-suade Britons to take a break to rediscover the beauty of the coast-

line around their island. The London Arts Season and the Festival of Arts and Culture were established to promote the capital

dull, and I wanted to convey the fun and the regions during the offseason months of January. February and March, and to help to swell attendances at concert halls, theatres, museums and art galleries at a time when business is traditionally at its slackest. As part of her struggle to

convince the Government of the value of tourism, she sent a complete set of guidebooks and accommodation listings to every member of the Cabinet last year, and will do so again this spring. She claims to have converted a number of them to the joys of the British holiday, although Virginia Bottomley has always spent family holidays on the Isle of Wight.

Ms Biss believes that the real challenge is to persuade those Britons who abandoned traditional "bucket-and-spade" seaside holidays in the 1970s when air fares became cheaper and there was "a great rush to the Costas".

Her first job was in tourism, as a courier taking coach parties on a tour of seven cities in ten days. ersity College

6 In five press

not helpful to

discuss it 2

London, she became one of the first women to join Unilever's graduate trainee scheme. Even now, she uses the skills she learnt there. "It was the university of marketing," Ms Biss says. Now. whenever I am trying to get a

message across, I go through the mental checklist of the steps that I need to take."

out

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east

From there, she joined the holiday company that later became Thomson Travel, now the UK's biggest tour operator, for seven years. After a brief spell with an advertising agency, she set up Biss Lancaster, the successful public relations company, with Graham Lancaster, in 1978.Ms Biss sold her stake in the company seven years later but stayed on for another four years as a consultant. When she left, it employed 90 people and had represented Woolworths during its defence against the bid from Dixons, and later represented Dixons when it was subject to a hostile bid from

Kingfisher. It was nice to be on the winning side on both occasions," she said.

Her contract comes up for renewal in May and she says that it would be "a privilege" to be kept on for a further three years. She expects to learn of the decision within weeks.

# Museum of money in mint condition at Bank

n the three hundred years of her life, the Old Lady has thrown little away. The prudence of our national bankers over the merations has meant that today the Bank of England museum has managed to turn itself, particularly since its extension and refurbishment in 1988, into a place of unexpected magnificence.

"Most bank museums are simply full of coins with dozens of bank notes pasted all over the walls — wonder-ful for numismatists and trainspotters but less rewarding for the general interest visitor," said John Keyworth, the curator. "The Bank of England museum has a surprising breadth to its collec-tion. Overall, it offers a remarkable social history of the last 300 years."

Architectural historians will be interested in the principal feature of the museum, a reproduction of the original Bank Stock Office. This was designed by Sir John Soane in 1793, a hall of austere simplicity, reminiscent of the interior of a Byzantine church. Using records kept at the Soane's Museum, the Bank of EngJoanna Pitman finds a gem of history in Old Lady's vaults

land was able to build a true reproduction down to the original dimensions and to recreate the lunette windows and plasterwork according to the original details. Being a single-storey con-

struction, however, Soane's building was demolished in the 1920s, leaving ony the massive outer walls, and replaced by a larger sevenstorey building offering more office space. This was designed by Sir Herbert Baker, an associate of Lutyens during his time in New Delhi, and was completed just before the outbreak of war in 1939. Baker's original Rotunda is the second major architectural feature of the museum, a classical design incorporating caryatids and columns that were part of Soane's

earlier designs. Housed in these two gracious halls, the collection itself is all the more impressive. Being a bank museum, there are of course a large

notes as well as a history of their design and production over the years. And the unrivalled collection of forg-

show and is a wry example of curatorial economy. What had for centuries been shamefully confined to the deepest of the bank's vaults is now back out on display, making conned banking clerks of past generations bhush, or possibly chuckle, from their graves.

eries makes a most enticing

ung on the walls of the museum are several oils, including a copy of the marvellous Dividend Day by George Elgar Hicks exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1859 and a relatively recent addition, The Court of Directors in

session, by Boyd and Evans. There are also a number of architectural drawings of the Bank's various designs and extensions, topographical views of London and a fine

collection of photographs dating back to 1850. The Bank has an extensive collection of silver, many of the pieces dating from 1694, the year of the Bank's foundation and much of which is still in use for official functions. Perhaps the most important piece is a tankard presented to the first Governor, Sir John Houblen, in 1696 "in token of his great ability, industry and strict uprightness at a time of extreme difficulty".

For almost 200 years nothing was heard of this tankard until it was purchased in London by an American silversmith. Eventually in 1924, through the interven-tion of Benjamin Strong. then Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, it was returned to the Bank.

New silver is constantly being commissioned, a recent example being the triangular salver that commemorates the Bank's 250 years in Threadneedle Street, 1734-1984. The engraving derives from an 18th-century perspective view of the Bank's new building by George

Sampson, the architect. The gold in the Bank's vaults belongs to Governments, British and foreign, and other customers. Only gold that the Bank owns is on display, among it Roman gold bars dating from AD 375 and bearing the mark of the mint at Sirmium in

modern-day Bosnia. The museum also displays archaeological finds excavated during rebuilding in 1925-39, along with a collection of statuary, and an eclectic range of artefacts including weapons and firearms once

used to defend the Bank. With two or three special exhibitions a year, no admission fee and an Aladdin's Cave of a collection that hits just the right mercenary nerve in us, it is no wonder that the Old Lady's museum attracts more than 100,000 ONLY FROM LEGAL & GENERAL

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The Bank Stock Office, designed by Sir John Soane in 1793, has been reproduced



# Rate cut outlook sends shares into free-fall

SHARE prices and govern-ment bonds fell sharply on both sides of the Atlantic as investors reached the conclusion that we have seen the last of the interest rates cuts for the time being.

A strong set of US employment numbers triggered the shakeout, indicating that the American economy may be gathering pace. US Treasury bonds led the way down and within minutes the Dow Jones average was nursing a fall of 114 points.

The effect on the London market was equally dramatic. Just before publication of the employment numbers at 1.30pm, the FT-SE 100 index had been sporting a rise of about three points as investors continued to reflect on the latest quarter-point cut in base rates. An hour later it had plunged more than 60 points and, at its worst, was down 72 points. It managed to claw back some of the losses to close down 47.9 points at 3,710.3, a fall on the week of 42.4.

Selling pressure was described as light and this was reflected in the total number of shares changing hands, 886 million. It was hardly the sort of response that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, might have expected to his latest cut in rates.

Even so, market reaction to the quarter-point reduction had been subdued. Dealers said much of it was already in the price and felt it unlikely that the move would direct any fresh funds back from

Leading shares bore the brunt of the markdown. Of the top 100 companies, only three closed up on the day: RTZ, up 4p at 922p, SmithKline Beecham. 4p better at 721p, and GKN, a rise of 16p to 893p as brokers took in Thursday's better than expected profits news. It was supported by some bullish comments by Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, and a profits upgrading by BZW.

Elsewhere among the leaders, National Grid on 195p and Pilkington on 212p were unmoved. The worst falls were seen in Guardian Royal Exchange, 10p to 239p, Sun Alliance, 12p to *38*0p, Cadbury Schweppes, 16p to 519p. HSBC, 30p to £10.47, Courtaulds, 12p to 424p, and Wolseley, 13p to 472p. On the bid front, South

West Water rose a further 8p to 616p, stretching the rise on



Mike Darrington, left, with David Park, centre, and Malcolm Simpson, of Greggs, whose share dipped 5p

the week to 118p after the move by Wessex Water, its neighbour, which wants to bid later this year. Keith Court. chairman of South West, said the company would consider any bid reflecting the value of its businesses. But he was scathing about Wessex: "The proposals contain no details. or commitments, only claims and promises. Wessex rushed

billion merger between Sandoz and Ciba-Geigy and the impact it will have on British drug companies. Glaxo Wellcome and Zeneca both made early headway in the belief that a merger might be on the cards at some stage. But this was the signal for profit-takers to move in on the back of recent trading news from both companies. Zeneca

Siebe was unable to make the most of an upbeat meeting with brokers on trading conditions. The group reported that, in spite of patchy market conditions, orders are rising. A reshuffle is under way to bring into sharper focus its automotive interests, with sales growing to £320 million. The shares eased 4p, to 833p.

out an announcement in the middle of the night which was unsolicited and unwelcome". Wessex ended the session

up 3p at 327p. Brokers reported continued speculative support for some of the other water companies. Bristol Water rose 15p to £12.75, Mid Kent 3p to 433p, and Yorkshire Water 3p to 676p.

The big drug companies enjoyed an early mark-up as investors continued to absorb details of this week's £41

ended 8p cheaper at £13.69 on turnover of more than 4.3 million, while Glaxo Wellcome eased 2p to 844p, after briefly touching 8612 p.

British Biotech, which unveiled third-quarter losses earlier this week, jumped another 250 to a new all-time high of £22.80. The group gave an upbeat statement about pros-

BET slipped 25p to 1945p ahead of publication of its defence document on Mon-

MOVERS	OF THE WEEK
South West Water	Weet's change +118PWessex declares intention to bid +96p Bumper figures, merger hopes +27p Trocadero takes 22.5 per cent +44p Speculative buying +80p Bumper profits news +232p Encouraged by prospects -134p Figures, GKN not to bid +46p Better than expected figures

The independent television broadcasters suffered one of
--

their rare setback ing of governme for a limit on th receive from Cl bone of contention nel 4 executives f of years, both cha ively competing another. Border lost lip to Z76p. HTV Group 19p to 365p. Scottish Television 20p to 638p, Ulster TV 33p £12.95 and Yorkshire TV 9p to £10.04.

Greggs, the confectioner and retailer, whose managing director is Mike Darrington, has reported a record pre-tax profit of £13.1 million for the year to December 30, up 8.6 per cent on the previous 12 months. Earnings per share have risen 11.3 per cent to 79p and the dividend rises 13 per cent to 26p per share. The share ended down 5p at £13.35. ☐ GILT-EDGED: The expected cut in base rates had already been built into the market by the time the Bank of England sanctioned the move during the morning. Events after that proved to be something of an anti-climax, with the market vulnerable when the US non-farm payroll numbers were published around 1.30pm. Prices fell sharply, with brokers reporting a flattening-out of the yield curve and those at the longer end suffering the worst falls. Attempts at a rally from the

lower levels proved futile. Heavy selling of the future led the rest of the market lower. The June series of the Long Gilt touched El041532, before ending El<sup>31</sup>32 down at £1042732 in heavy trading that saw 90.000 contracts completed.

In the cash market. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 dived almost £2 to finish at £962132, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent lost El18 at □ NEW YORK: Shares on

Wall Street fell sharply in response to the falling bond prices and stronger than expected employment figures. By midday the Dow Jones Industrial average was 61.41 points lower at 5,580.28.

### MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 5380_28 (-61.41) S&F Composite 644.63 (-9.02)
Tokyo: Nikicei Average 20155.87 (+198.72)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng
Amsterdam: EOE Index
Sydney: 2267.6 - 1.61

Straits	3400.76 (-1.67)
Brussels: General	9008.89 (+75.83)
Paris:	1975.27 (-32.76)
Zurich: SKA Gen	757.60 (-2.90)
London	2760 (3 t-34 l)

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Frankfurt

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Clubhaus (75)	6	
Clubhaus Wis	3%	
Freepages (12)	145	-
IOC Intl	130	+
M & G Equity Cap	214:	
M & G Equity Div	90	
M & G Equity Inc	43	
Optical Care (B)	70	
Schroder UK G Uts	245	
Shire Pharms (175)	202	-
Streamline (180)	179	+
Visual Action (185)	229	_

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## MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Costain	91p (+10p)
Aliders	202p (+12p)
Bostrom	300p (+15p)
GWR Group	259o (÷12c)
Yates Bros	
Cortecs	269p (+9p)
S&U	378p (÷12p)
Brit Barneo ,	468p (÷12o)
GKN	
Securicor 'A'	
FALLS:	
Dailywin	117p (-33p)
Memory Corp	
Shleid Diag	

Dailywin	117p (-33p
Memory Corp	155p (-30p
Shield Diag	118p (-15c
Firecrest	
Danka Bus Systems	
Cadbury-Schw	
Eve Group	
Psion	
HTV Group ,	
GRE	
Piico	
Border TV	
Biotec Inv	
Sun Alliance	380n (-10p
	500p (-12p

Closing Prices Page 41

### **TEMPUS**

# Metals head back to base

THE price of base metals such as copper and aluminium continues to slide after last year's period of glory and the outlook for mining stocks such as RTZ-CRA and Minorco is now gloomy. As is usual in commodity industries. the problem stems from sharp increases in supply rather than a sudden lack of demand.

There are problems for copper, with weak construction demand in Europe, particularly in Germany as the housing boom in former east Germany tails off. But the US is picking up and Far Eastern demand, mainly from China, is growing by 10 per cent.

The fall in copper prices from last year's high levels of \$1.40 per lb to \$1.13-\$1.18 is due

to a gradual build-up of stocks from new production coming on stream, and the problem is likely to get worse. Over the past six months, 600,000 tonnes of new capacity

came on stream and much more is expected. Supermines such as Minorco's Collahuasi copper project in Chile will be producing 300,000 tonnes per annum before the end of the century. While copper is suffering from a build-up in production, the aluminium price has plummeted because of the expiry of a twoyear agreement by a cartel of producer countries to restrain supply. However, aluminium has a better price outlook than copper; many Russian producers that once dumped stocks in a desperate search for hard currency are on the verge of shutdown, unable to pay their electricity bills.

Highly efficient mining companies such as RTZ-CRA can continue to make money even if the copper price falls to 90 cents per lb, but share prices will drift until stock levels begin

### Hambro Countrywide

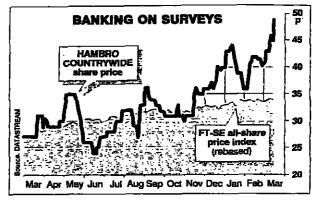
YOU cannot fault Hambro Countrywide for dogged determination. Having amassed the largest estate agency chain in Britain, it watched grimly while the housing market accelerated downhill. Hambro reckons its logic of economies of scale and high operational gearing still holds good, but while volumes remain at a low level, the company pays the heavy cost of its branches.

Hambro's estate agents could make a proper living selling 80,000 houses a year. about two deals a week for each branch. But last year each Hambro Countrywide shop averaged only seven a month, and even that was well ahead of the national average. However, the target is not unachievable. If the

### chain manages to sustain the trend that began in January a 25 per cent uplift in volume — it should finish the year in the black. More secure than agency commissions is surveying

work from mortgage lenders. Hambro is conducting, on an annualised basis, 150,000 surveys that could add £5 million to the bottom line. Add to that

increased penetration of life assurance and the group has the capability of making decent profits. The big proviso is house sales. Having made a heavy pitch for volume, Hambro must live or die by the market, but it is in an excellent position to benefit from plunging mort-gage rates. This could be the year of recovery.



### privatisation

ght of Tarmac and sthom piling into maintenance work will be alarming to smaller players that have bought up British Rail's infrastructure maintenance companies.

The maintenance companies. complete with guaranteed contracts of up to five years for various Railtrack projects, may have seemed a cheap way to buy an income stream.

But all good contracts come to an end and it is then that GEC and Tarmac aim to realise the most benefit from their £18.8 million purchase of CIMCo. GT Railway Maintenance,

the Tarmac/GEC venture, will not stop at CIMCo. the largest of the British Rail maintenance divisions. It intends to expand aggressively outside CIMCo's area and take up expiring contracts elsewhere. The contracts scattered throughout the 13 companies are between one and five years in duration and will be coming up for grabs shortly.

The move also marks a consolidation of Tarmac's rail interests. It owns Central TRC, a track renewal specialist based in Birmingham, and has been involved in several large rail engineering projects. It is also a big supplier of concrete railway sleepers. Add to that GEC's

engineering experience and this partnership has the potential to clean up the market over the next five years.

Hotels THE UK hotel trade is booming, with occupancy levels soaring and room yields increasing. Occupancy rates in top London hotels reached 83 per cent late last year, while room yields soared 11 per cent

to £158 a room. The rush to buy more hotels by mid-market provincial chains such as Regal suggest that the regions are not lagging far behind. But the investor faces a shortage of pure hotel stocks on the market. Granada or Bass shares might appear a lowrisk punt on an upturn in hotels, but Ladbroke, with its troubled betting shops, or Vaux and its underperforming breweries are less attractive.

The flotation of Millennium Copthorne next month and the forthcoming rights issue from Regal should satisfy a desire for pure hotel stocks. But both groups have potential pitfalls of their own. Millennium will still be majority-owned by CDL, based in Hong Kong, while the outlook for Regal depends on the detail of the company's financing package. The renewed IRA campaign could halt the resurgent market, especially in upmarket hotels that rely heavily on North American visitors. There is plenty more action in the leisure sector, but investors cannot rely on hotels alone.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

### COMMODITIES LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE **GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES** CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel POB) COCOA 894-885 May 903-406 Jul 931-930 Sep 951-950 Dec 905-964 985-984 ROBUSTA COFFEE (\$) Open 182.0 178.0 CT050 178\_5 180\_5 225.0 WHITE SUGAR (FOB) IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd) ..... 312.7-07.: ..... 307.5-06.2 GAS OIL BRENT (6.00pm) 18.16-18.17 Jul ... 17.25-17.27 Aug ... 16.74 BID 16.39-16.43 ...... unq Vol: 39666 Average falstock prices at represent markets on March 7 //kg [w] Fig Skeep 8: 105.09 130.47 (-1-1 1.89 3.76 mg/Wales: 105.09 130.94 (-1-1 1.85 3.76 Cattle 119.3) -1.60 118.99 LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day)

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Br Steel 160 191 224 231 01 5 7	Br Telcon 360 14's 22's 24's 9's 18 21 18's 22's 24's 9's 18 21 18's 22's 24's 18's 22's 27's 40's 28's 28's 28's 28's 28's 28's 28's 28	Forte 343 51/ 109: 141/ 2 5 8
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C&W 420 34 43 514 45 135 17	(1518's) 550 6 17', 24 47', 51 56	Tarmac 110 8 121, 15 07, 5 8
(*447) 480 11 225 31 21 325 36 CU	Guinness 460 13': 25': 30': 18'. 23': 28	f*117)   120 2 7: 10 4: 10 13   Hillisoftern   80 4: 9 11 2   0: 13:
(*589*.) 600 tZ 29*. 37 18*. 28*. 39	(*162*1 500 47 11 16 49 517 547	Hillsoneri 160 45 9 tj 2 105 135   (*1825)
(C1 900 17'; 4] 51 29', 4 '; 53';	GEC 130 27 13 30 3: 11 14	
(*907'4) 950 45 21', 31 67 73', 83';	("349") 360 9', 16 20% 15'1 26 29	Lonnto
Kingfishr., 900 35 42- 52 7 15', 21'	Hanson, 180  3  15', 14  4', 7  1	Sears 90 5' 7' 9 0 3 4
(*5294) 550 No. 18 27's 35's 42's 47's	71864.1 200 3', 6's 10's 15's 14' 22's	17951 (00 05 Z: 4 5 9 10
Land Sec 600 to 34': 29: 8 24 27's	LASMO 180 12 19 22 10°. 13°: 14's	Thorn 1600 40', 92', 118', 10', 40 us
(°605) 650   51  0 45 6  62'.	C180F4 200 5 11 14 22'1 25'1 25'-	(*1627'9) 1700 35 45 70 73', 94 1215
M & S 420 21 285 34 4 12 155	Clicks	Tomkins 200 8'. 17'. 22'. 2 6'. 14
(°4735) 460) 21, 49, 15 369, 35 39		(7266) 250 I 8 I3 I41 I71 25
Nat West 650 30's 51's 61 10 20', 31's	Filkingtn 210   11   17     7':   13	Likoyots TSB. 392 264, 364, — 0 5 —
(1667) 740 8° 27° 39° 38 47 57°	Prusicetial., 430 24 36 42 12: 20 36	(*314) 322 4 185 — 7, 151, —
Sainsburg 3c0 24 24 34'. 2', 10 13 1779 90 6', 12', 19', 15', 25', 26',	(*438*) 460 7 181, 24 37 425 48	Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct
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Smki Bch 700 33 49 60 71 184 271	R-Regice 200 15 21', 25', b 10 12',	HSBC 1000 557 757 935 197 367 514
1"720%) 750 No. 24% 35 34 44% 52%	[*2044) 230 St 124 lb 17: 21 23	(*1047's) 1050 24 50 68 45 61 76
Storehse	Tesco 290 11 17 21 12': 15': 21':	Bourter 700 20'1 40 53 23'1 35'4 44
(*1271.) 330 10 14 25 10 17, 214	(*281) 300 3': 9 13 26'. 29 33's	(*701) 750 5 IP, 32, 60 67 74
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(*1 %9".) 1400 20 57'; 76 70 90'; 100';	FT-SE INDEX (*3704))	SerjesMar Jun Mar Jun
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(*424'.) 460 6 12', 20', 37', 43', 48', Ladbroke, 180 11 19 20'; 14 17 19	May 137's 106 76's 54 36 21	Series May May
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German Gov Bd Bur Previous open Interest: 219			96.75 95.86	95.40 95.74	95.48 94.65	192942 740	١
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Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week: 198.535% recei 800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc:	6'-6'- blets: £3,703m s ved: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5'-4'- 3'-3'- 1'1'-	NEY DE	POSI  3 mth  5'-5', 3'-5', 4'-4', 1'-1'	6 mag 57 mg 7	received received 8%; Next	t 28%; week:	
Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc.	64-64.  blots: £3,703m s wed: 48%: Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5 h 4 h 3 + 3 h 4 h 3 h 4 h 3 h	NEY DE	6'=6 0m: Bids 7'96 last v  POSI 3 mth 5'=5', 3'n.9'n 4'-4',	6 mag 57 mg 7	received received 8%; Next	Call 5-4 3'-2'- 4'-3'-	
Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week: 198.535% recei 800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc:	6"6"s older E3.703m s oved: 48% Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"4"s  3"3"s  1"""	6'4-6  ###################################	6'-6 00m: Bids 79% last v  POSI 3 mth 5'-5', 3'-3'-6 1'-1'-1	6 mm 6 mm 6 mm 7 mm	receiver receiver 8%; Next	Call 5-4 31-21 4-735 2-1	
Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bulliom: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-394	EAN MOI  7 day  7 day  8 48 3 4 3 4 4 4 3 4 4 4 3 4 4 4 4 3 4	Out- officer in the CS-80 NEV DE I mith Sur5's 3'-3's 4'-3''s 1'-3's METAL MS-50-305.8	POSI 3 mth 5-5, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 5-5, S (Ba	6 08.55% % E5.874 TS (% 6 08.5% 7 0 08.10 10.0	receives  Receiv	Call 5-4 31-21 4-735 2-1	
Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutscheunark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-394  Krugerrand: \$394.50-396	6"6"-  olcas: £3,703m s  ved: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"4"- 3"3"- 4"3"- 4"3"- 4"3"- 5.60 Close \$3  S. AM: \$396  50 £238,75-260.	Out- officered CS-800 NEV DE I mth Sur5's 3'4-3's 4'4-3's 1'4-	POSI 3 mth 5-5, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1,	6 cas 55% (% E.S.874) FS (% E.S.874)	teceprone see Next Next Next Next Next Next Next Ne	59-40's dr 28%; week: Call 5-4 39-2's 47-35; 2-1 n/a	
Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bulliom: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-394	6"6"-  olcas: £3,703m s  ved: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"4"- 3"3"- 4"3"- 4"3"- 4"3"- 5.60 Close \$3  S. AM: \$396  50 £238,75-260.	Out- officered CS-800 NEV DE I mth Sur5's 3'4-3's 4'4-3's 1'4-	POSI 3 mth 5-5, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1, 1-1,	6 08.55% % E5.874 TS (% 6 08.5% 7 0 08.10 10.0	teceprone see Next Next Next Next Next Next Next Ne	59-40's dr 28%; week: Call 5-4 39-2's 47-35; 2-1 n/a	
Bailding Society CDs: TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutscheunark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-394  Krugerrand: \$394.50-396	6-6-  olds: £3,703m s  red: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5-4- 3-3- 4-3- 3-3- 5- 6-CIOUS 1  5-40 Close \$3 5-40 Close \$3 5-40 Silver: \$5 6-6 Silver: \$5	69-6 allowed Esc. rate: £5.80 NEY. DE 1 mth 59-51-3 37-31-4 44-31-4 12-11-4 12	Palladin	6 08.55% (% E.5.874) FS (% F.5.874)	ts (E89.5	54-10's dt 28%; i week:  Call 5-4 3'-2', 4'-3-1 n/a	
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week: E98.535% recei EUROP  Carreacy Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI Bulliom: Open \$395.60-398  Krugerrand: \$394.50-396  Platinum: 5411.50 £269.4  Mid Rates for March 8	6"6" olds: £3,703m s oved: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day 5"4" a 3"-3" 4"3" a 1""-1" a  ECIOUS 1 5.00 AM: 53% 50 (228.75-200) Silver: \$5.	MEY DE ME	S (Bad OH: S3%)	6 mm 5136.  D RA  1 month	teceives see: Next	5'-to's the 25%; i week: Call 5-4 3'-2's 4'-3's 10'	
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bulliom: Open \$395.60-396 Low: \$394.50-396  Krugerrand: \$794.50-396  Mid Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels 24 Brussels 22 Brussels 25	6"6"-  oldes: 13,703m s  red: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"4" a  3"-3",  4"-3",  1"1" a  ECIOUS 1  5:00 AM: 535  50 E258.75-200  oldes: 5521-2538  46.40-4666	6 me	S (Ba)  Paladin  Puladin  Puladin  Puladin  Puladin  Puladin  Puladin  Puladin	6 mm 5136.  13 month	1 3 2 1 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	54-55; treels: week: 54-35-21; n/a 55)	
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week 198.535% recei 800m.  EUROP  Carrency Dollar: Deutschemark: Preach Franc: Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bulliom: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-394 Krugerrand: \$394.50-396  Mid Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 8 Amsterdam 8 Bulliomsels Copenhagen 8	7 day 5 hap had	METAL 18-15-16	POSI  3 mth  5-5,  1-1,  1-1,  1-1,  2-1,  1-1,	6 08.55% (% E5.874  FS (% FS.874  6 08.55% (% FS.874  1 09.40-3  1 09.40-3  1 month Y-app 13-401  13-401  13-401	teceives set. Next	69-405 # 2840 # 2840 Call 5-4 3-25 2-1 n/a 1-1-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr 1-2-pr	
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App TREASURY BILLS: App TREASURY BILLS: App EUROP  Carreacy Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI Bullion: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-39 Krugerrand: \$394.50-36 Platinum: \$411.50 (£269.4)  STERLING  Mid Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Dublin 0.0	6-6-  locate 13,703m s  locate 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5-4- 3-3- 4-3-3- 4-3-3- 5-50 Close 33 50 (Close 33 50 (E28,75-6)  SPOT AI  Range 5271-2.5389 46.404666 7150-8.7710 97130-9757	9 46 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	9	6 08.55% (K E5.874  FS (9X 55% 1 FS (9X	6 receives 8%; Next 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	5'-to's t-28%; i week:  Call 5-4 3'-2', 4'-3-1 n/a  month -1'-pr -2'-pr -2'-pr	9
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App TREASURY BILLS: App Last week £98.533% recei £800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-39 (aw: \$394.50-396.  Mist Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Dublin 0 Frankfurt 2 Lishon 2 Lis	67-6%  olect 13,703m s  red: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5%-4% 37-3% 4%-3% 11%-11%  EC(OUS 1  \$5.00 Close \$3  \$5.00 AM \$5.99  \$5.00 E258.75-260  Olect 13,500 AM \$5.99  \$5.00 E258.75-260  Silver: \$5.40  SPOT AI  Range  \$5271-25383 46.40-46.66  7150-8.7710 9713.0.9757 2563-22683	6 w-6 millioned: 53.80 mare: 5	9 4 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	6 mm \$136.  1 month 1-pp 11-pp	6 received 84; Next 84; Next 85; Next 8	59-40's dr 28%; week:  Call 5-4 3'-2', 4'-3-1 n/a 1-2'-pr	000
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bulliom: Open \$395.60-396 Love: \$394.50-396  Mid Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Dublin 8 Dublin 8 Frankfurt 2 Lisbon 2 Madrid 11	6"6"-  locate 13,703m s  red: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"-4"- 3"-3"- 4"-3"- 1"-1"- 5.50 Close \$3 5.50 AM: \$39 50 (238.75-260  Silver: \$5.4  SPOT AI  Range 5271-2338 46.40466 7150-8.7710 9713.07977 2563-22683 49.95-190.80	9 46 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	9	6 mm 5 mm \$136.  DRA  1 month	5 (E89.5)  115  115  115  115  115  115  115	54-55-6: week:  Call 5-4 31-2: 41-31 n/a 41-31 n/a 11-0r 1-2-0r	0000
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-396 Love: \$394.00-394 Krugerrand: \$794.50-396.  STERLING: Mik Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels 2 Copenhagen 2 Dublin 0 Frankfurt 2 Lisbom 2 Madrid 11 Millen 2 Montreal 3 Mew York 1	6"6"-  least 13,703m s  red: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"-4"- 3"-3"- 4"-3"- 4"-3"- 5,50 Close \$3 5,50 AMC \$39 50 (£28,75-260, 0) Silver: \$5.4  SPOT AI  SPOT AI  8.40,46,46 40,46,46 40,46,46 40,46,46 40,46,46 40,46,52 40,46,52 40,46,52 40,46,52 40,46,52 40,40,52 4	## 6 ## 6 ## 6 ## 6 ## 6 ## 6 ## 6 ##	9	6 mm \$136.  D PA  1 month  1-2-2-1  1 month  1-2-2-1  1-2-2-1  2-4-2-2  1-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-1  1-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-1  1-2-2-2-2	5 (E89.5)  TES:  115- 115- 115- 115- 115- 115- 115- 11	9'	
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.535% recei E800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutscheunark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.00-39  Krugerrand: \$394.50-36  Platinum: \$411.50 (£269.46  STERLING  Mik Rates for March 8  Amsterdam 2 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Dublin 0 Frankfurt 2 Ilsbum 2 Madrid 11 Millian 2 Montreal 2 Montreal 7 New York 9 New York	6"-6"-  least 13.703m is level: 48%; Avge 48%; Avge 48%; Avge 57.40 ft. 12.70 ft. 12.7	### 6 ### 6	9	6 mm \$136.  DRA  1 month  1-2-pt  1-2-	75 (E89.5)  115- 237- 247- 25 (E89.5)	9'+0's th 28%; week: week:  Call 5-4 3'-2's 4'-3's 2-1 n/a 1'-0'r -2'-0'r -2'-0'r -1'-0'r -2'-0'r -1'-0'r -2'-0'r -1'-0'r -2'-0'r -1'-0'r -2'-0'r -1'-0'r -1'-0'r -1'-0'r	000000
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.533% recei E800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-399 Low: \$394.50-396  Krugerrand: \$794.50-396  Mid Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Lowing Sandam 2 Marchant 2 Madrid 11 Millan 2 Monreal 2 Monreal 2 Monw York 9 Paris 7 Stockholm 16	6"-6"-  least 13,703m is level: 48%; Avge  EAN MOI  7 day  5"-4" is 3-3-4  4"-3" is 1"-1" is 1" is 1"-1" is 1"-	6 med 5.80 NEV DE mate	S (Ba)  Palladin  Palladin  Palladin  Palladin  WAR  Close 5388  Palladin  WAR  1097.39 2693 35.48 90.64 0.0419	6 mm \$130.  1 month   1-10 mm \$130.  1 month   1-10 mm \$130.  2-0.130 mm \$130.  1 month   1-10 mm \$10.  1 month   1-10 mm \$10.  1 month   1-10 mm \$1.  1 month   1	5 (ES) 32 (1) 32 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 33 (1) 34 (1) 35	69-40's dt 28%; i week:  Call 5-4 33-2's 4'-3's 1-1'-9r -1'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -1'-1'-2's 1-2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r -2'-9r	O C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
Bailding Society CDs TREASURY BILLS: App Last week E98.533% recei E800m.  EUROP  Currency Dollar: Deutschemark: Freach Franc: Swiss Franc: Yen:  GOLD/PRI  Bullion: Open \$395.60-39 Low: \$394.50-396.  Mist Rates for March 8 Amsterdam 2 Brussels Copenhagen 8 Bullion: 2 Madrid 11 Millen 2 Montreal 2 New York 9 Losio 9 Paris 7 Stockholm 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki 16 Tennicki 16 Tennicki 16 Tokyo 16 Tennicki	6"6"-  letts: 13,703m s  red: 48%; Avge  48%; Avge  48%; Avge  7 day  5"-4" a  3"-3",  4"-3" a  1"-1" a  5.50 AM; 539  50 (238,75-260)  51 Silver: \$5.4  SPOT AI  Range  527; 2.5388  46,404666  7150-8.7710  97; 30-375,48  98,98,100,80  180,2-2872,1  190; 30-384  190	60-e6 silomet 5.80 NEV DE mate 5.80 NEV	6 6 com: Blds 7/7% last v l	6 mm \$136.  1 month 1	5 (289.5)  1 (2.2)  1 (3.2)  1 (3.2)  1 (3.2)  1 (3.2)  1 (3.2)  2 (3.2)	69-40's dt 28%; i week:  Call 5-4 33-24 n/a 14-35 2-1 n/a 14-25 1-1-45 1-1-45 1-1-45 1-1-45 1-2-40r 1-3-40r	1
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LONDON FINANCIAL FLITURES

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Australia 1.3032-1.3041 Austria 10.41-10.42	Mar S Mar 7 midday cluse	Mar 8 Mar 7 midday close
Reigium (Com)	AMP Inc 421 421	
Canada	AMR Corp 80' 86' 1	Easuman Kodak 73°, 75°, Eaton Corp 56°, 57°, Edison Int 17°, 17°,
France	Abbott Labs 43 43's Advanced Micro 17's 17's	Edison in: 17', 17', Emerson Elec: 79', 81 Engelbard Corp: 20', 20',
Hong Kong 7.7323-7.7327	Actita Life 764 784 Abstraction (HF) 244 25	Enter Corp 36 36's
Hong Kong 7,7322-7,7327 Ireland 1,5690-1,5690 Italy 1550-1,562-25 Japan 105,84-105,99 Malaysia 2,5400-2,5410 Netherlands 1,5590-1,595	Air Prod & Chem 55 55% Air Touch Comm 30% 34%	Ethyl Corp 10', 10', Exton 82', 82',
Malaysia 25400-25410	Afberto-Culver 8 38', 38'. Albertson's 37', 38	FMC Curp 7 1, 74% FPL Group 44% 45%
Norway	Alcan Alumam 324 325 Alco Standard 49 494	Federal Express 72% 72% Fed Nat Mige 12% 33%
Singapore	Afflied Signal Sov. 574. Alum Co of Am 574, 584. Amuz Gold Inc. 74, 75,	First Interstate 1614 1664 First Union Rity 74 75
Spain	Amex Gold Inc 7: 7: Ameruda Hess 51: 51: 49:	Fleet Find Grp 40°, 41 Fluor Corp 68°, 68°, Ford Motor 31°, 32°,
Switzerland 1.2025-1.2035	Amer El Power 42, 43	GTE COTP 424, 474.
OTHER STERLING	Amer Geni Corp 3t/s 3th Amer Home Pr 1025 104's	Ganneti 67', 68', Gap inc Del 53', 53', Gen Dynamics 60', 61',
	Americal 95, 381 Americal 251, 281,	Gen Electric 76': 78 Gen Mills 58': 90
Argentina peso* 1.5275-1.5301 Australia dollar 1,9900-1,9926	Amer Standard 29 29', Amerikath 55', 50',	Gen Motors 51's 52's Gen Reinsurance 190's 153
Bahrain dinar	Ameco 70, 70, Anhouser-Busch 68, 68,	Gen Signal 36% 36% Genuine Parts 41% 42%
China yuan 12.00 Buy	Apple Computer 25', 25'   Archef Daniels 18', 19', Armeo 5', 5',	Georgia Pac 67 67's Gillette 54's 54's
Cyprus pound	Armon 5% 5% Armoning Wild 59% 60% Assured 31% 32	Glazo Welle ADR 25°, 25°, Goodrich (BF) 75°, 76 Goodyear Tire 50°, 51°,
Hong Kong dollar 11.8055-11.8094	Ashiand Oli 35% 36%. Atl Richfield 110%, 112%	Goodyear Tire 50°, 51°, Grace (W&R) 78°, 80 Gri Ad Pac Teg 23°, 23°,
India rupee	Auto Dala Pro 389, 304, Apper Dennikon 52, 54	Great Wath Fig. 24', 25', Hallibunon 50', 50'.
Kuwait dinar KD	Aven Products R74, 204, 1844, 1844	Hartourt General 45% 46% Heinz (HJ) 34% 34%
Paidstan rupee	Boltign Gas & El 27°, 28° Banc One 39°, 36°, BankAmerica 74°, 76	Hershey Foods 764, 771
Saudi Arabia riyal 5.4975-5.6215 Singapore dollar 2.1497-2.1518	BankAmerica 74% 76 Bank of MY 51% 52% Bankers Tr MY 65% 66%	Hilton Holels 93% 95%
S Alrica rand (com) 5.9620-6.0640 U A E dirham 5.5475-5.6715 Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank	Barnett Banks 62 67. Bausch & Lomb 39. 30.	Home Depot 47. 46.  Homestake Mng 18. 18.  Honeyweit 53. 53.
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FT-SE VOLUMES	Bell Atlantic 64°, 65 Bell Industries 20°, 21°,	Humana 24', 25',
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31 829 Land Secs 5,700 ASDA Gp 17,000 Legal & Cn 1,300	Bolise Cascade ver. ver.	INCO 32° 33 Ingersoli Rand 41 41°. Inland Steel 25°, 25°,
Abbey Mil 3.600 Lloyds TSB 15.000 Aliled Dom 3.800 Marks Spr 5.200	Bristol Myrs Sq. a7: a7: Browning Ferris 30: 30:	Intel Corp 53, 53, 18M
Argos 346 NatWst Bk 7,800 Argyll Gp 5,200 Nat Grid 4,500	Brunswick 22, 23, Burlington Nihn 81, 80,	ini Paper 39, 50
AB Foods 594 Nat Power 2,700 BAA 5,100 P & O 1,900	CBI inds 32, 33 CNA financial 1155 1175 CPC 160 215, 715	James River Va 25', 25', Junes & Jinnes 95', 96
BAT inds 7,300 Pearson 1,700 BOC 388 Puldington 1,800	CSX 44'. 45's	Kellogg 77', 29', 1 Kerr-McGee 61', 62', Kimberly-Clark 78', 78',
BP 5.400 PowerGen 830 BSkyB 1.900 Prudential 2,000	Carolina Per 36', 36',	Kmen 7, 8 Knight-Ridder 70 69,
BTR 10,000 REXAM 4,700 BT 14,000 RMC 352	Caterpillar 68', 67', Central & SW 27 27', Champion led 45', 44	Lity (Eii) 65% 67° Umiled Inc. 10% 10%
Bk of Sent 1,900 RTZ 3,900 Barclays 5,200 Rank Ong 3,100	Chase Manhat 67, 72	Uncoin Nat 52', 54', Liston 68', 49', Liz Claiborne 34', 35
Bass 3.000 Recidit Col 1.700 Biue Circle 350 Rediand 2.400	Chrysler 51, 55, Chrysler 59 50,	Lockheed Martin 70, 50,
Books 885 Reed Intl 791   BAe 1,200 Rentold 2.100	Chubb Corp 974, 100°; Clara Corp 120°, 123°;	MCI Comm 29, 20, Marrioti Int 40, 97,
BA 3.300 Reulers 4,000	Clores A3', 85 Constal Corp 37', 37',	Marsh & Melina 96', 90', Masen Corp 28', 28',
Burmah Cstl 467 Ryl Bk Scot 4,700	Cora Cola gr. gr. gr. Coleane Palmolles rou.	May Depti St 40°, 30°, Maytag Corp. 20°, 30°,
Cable Wire 5,200 Schroders 83	Columbia Cos 44°, 45 Columbia HCA 56 95°,	McDonalds 51' 52', McDonald D 86' 88', McGraw Hill 89', 90',
Carlton Cms 4,700 Scot Power 1400	Compaq Comp 39, 39, Comp Ass Ini 67 68, Conagra 43, 43,	Med Corp 52', 52', Medironic 58', 49',
Cookson 2,700 Svm Trent 276 Cookson 2,700 Shell Trans 5,400	Contrail 43, 49, Cons Edison 32 32, Cons Ner Gas 42, 43,	Mellon Bit Sc. Se. 124 Melville Corp 324, 124
Disons 819 Smill Ret 6 200 I	Cooper into 17's 38',	Mernii Lynch 57', 54', Microsoft 66', 67
Enlerpr Oil 4.200 Smith Nph 4.600 For & Col IT 1.200 Smiths Inds 896 GKN 2.500 Sthern Flor 247	Correstates 42', 43', Corning inc 33', 34 Crown Cork 48', 49',	Minnesota Mine 645 655, Mobil Corp 1135 114
GRE 4,800 Std Chartd 3,200	Dama Corp 311, 324, Dayron, Hudson, 741, 201	Monsante 136' 138' Mongan (TM) 83 84'
Gen Acc 3,100 71 Gp 1,500	Detre 41's 45's	Nati Service and 34 (44)
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b-1.482b	Abbott Labs 43 437 Advanced Micro 171 171	Emerson Elec 79, 8)	PH
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94-105.89 10-2.5410	AirTouch Commo 30', 34' Aiberto-Cuiver 8 38', 38'		Pac
0-1.6595	Albertson's 37', 38 Alcen Alumam 52', 32',	FP1 Group 44', 45',	Pac
6-6,4433 H-153,01	Alco Standard 49 49/ Allied Signal 50/4 57	Fed Nat Mitge 32', 33'.	Pal
0-1.4090	Alum Co of Am 59', 58'	First Union Rise 74 75	Pau
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5-1.2035	I AMERIKANS 45 49.	Pord Motor 31', 32', GTE Corp 42', 43',	Pen Per
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IG-	) Amer Home Pr. 100s. 2044	Gen Dynamics 60', 61',	Pho
	Amer Inti 95, 985 Amer Stores 25, 285	Gen Mills 58%, 90	Phi
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8-1.4980 2.00 Buy	Apple Computer 25', 25' Archer Dankels 18', 19',	Georgia Pac 67 67'	Pro
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5-7,0835 5-372,75	Armstring Wild 59°, 50°, Assured 31°, 32	Goodyser Tire 50, 514	Rai
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5-0.4615 1-3.8906	Avery Dennison 53, 54 Aven Products 874, 884, Baker Hughes 204, 284		Roc Rol
9-2.2612	Baltist Gas & El 27', 28	Hercukes 62', 63'.	Rut
2.47 Buy 5-5.6215	Banc One 39, 36. BankAmerica 74, 75 Bank of NY 51, 52,		SBC
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996 247	Coming Inc 33', 34 Crown Cork 48', 40',	Mobil Corp 113, 114	Unis
3.200	Danie Corp 31, 32, Dayton Hudson 78, 79,	Morgan (PM gg ga).	USF
5,800 1,500	Detre 41's 40's Detre Air Lines 75's 75	Net Feeder 14's 14's	Up to
4.29 3.900	Deluxe Corp 12, 33, Digital Equip 63, 64	NAVISTAL ID 10	VF C
2,800 1,500	Dillard Dept St. 33', 37', Disney (Walt) 67', 67',	N. ISBN 256 250	Wall
2,800	Dominion Res 37, 47. Donelley (RR) 36, 37,	Niag Mollawk 7 7.	Well
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**INVESTMENTS 33** 

Led by your conscience and pocket

# WEEKEND MONEY

**INSURANCE 37** 

Cold comfort for drivers on premiums?



# Lenders act swiftly over base rate cut

Sara McConnell and Caroline Merrell on the welcome news for millions of homeowners

alifax Building Society was the first lending institution to drop its mortgage rate after yesterday's 0.25 percentage point cut in base

However, the base rate cut is not good news for savers, as many of the societies that followed the Halifax indicated that they could be forced to cut savings rates.

The swift reaction of the Halifax angered the Nationwide, which claimed the UK's biggest society had recently said it did not see the need for any further rate cuts.

The Nationwide is already planning to cut its variable rate in April to 6.99 per cent as part of its £200 million mutuality reward package. A Nationwide spokesman

said: "Only a few weeks ago the Halifax was claiming that it was unnecessary to cut rates any further." The society, the second largest, pointed out that its new deal will still undercut the Halifax, but added that it was considering whether to adjust its rates in light of the base rate move.

New borrowers with Halifax will get an interest rate of 7.25 per cent, down from 7.49 er cent — the lowest level for nearly 30 years. However, the benefits of the rate change will not be passed on to the

Halifax's 2.4 million existing borrowers until April.

Mike Blackburn, Halifax chief executive, said: "Halifax led the way with mortgage rate cuts in November and December. In the current interest rate environment, we believe our new rates are at the

The cut will mean that a borrower with a £60,000 repayment mortgage will now pay £411.59 a month, a reduction of £8.50. The other lenders to follow suit include the Abbey National, Woolwich, Midland Bank and Northern

or new borrowers with the Abbey National intending to borrow more than £60,000, the rate drops to 7.24 per cent. For loans more than £100,000, the rate is 7.19, and for loans less than £60,000, the rate is 7.29. Existing borrowers will have to wait for two months to feel the benefit of the rate cut.

The Bradford & Bingley will be making a statement next week, but is expected to offer a rate of around 6.99 per cent through its branches and a rate of around 6 per cent through its direct division. Bradford & Bingley Direct, its lowest rate for 38 years.

The rate cut will add to the housing market's new-found

lead to further cuts in savers' rates. Most of the lending institutions which cut their rates this week said they were keeping savings rates under review. Lenders and estate agents claim that over the last few weeks, buyers and sellers have started to reappear on the market and are beginning

demand. Both lenders and agents are reporting a surge of activity fuelled by the cheaper mortgage deals and low interest rates and are confident that this will continue.

to satisfy years of pent-up

The Halifax said that house prices had risen 0.9 per cent in February and 0.2 per cent year on year. The monthly increase was the seventh in succession and the Halifax said this gives further support to our view that a recovery is now taking place".

The society forecasts a 2 per cent increase in prices in 1996 and a 10 per cent rise in activity. This would be enough to lift a significant number of borrowers out of negative equity. An estimated 1.5 million people have homes worth less than their mortgage.

Estate agents across Britain are seeing renewed interest from buyers and sellers. Rising house prices are expected to convince many potential buyers



### Mergers at societies on the boil

A fter a brief shutdown, the building society rumour machine is again whirring away (Arune Ashworth writes). This week, the Bristol & West conceded that its commitment to

hearted, although the society's board remains undecided on its next step. It is said that the Bristol & West would be most likely to merge with a larger society or bank. A similar fate, or so the gossips maintain, may also be in store for the West Bromwich Building Society, which has assets of £1.5 billion. Among those more than interested in acquiring WB, which has been dogged by controversy, is the Birmingham Midshires, the tenth-largest society,

with assets of £7.7 billion. The object of its desires said this week that it was not in talks with anyone. "We want to remain inde-pendent." it said. The society is continuing its search for a chief executive to replace Glenn Elliott, who departs next month. To date, no appointment has been made, despite

the lure of a £130,000-a-year salary. Mr Elliott's sudden resignation rekindled merger speculation. The WB says his decision was not connected with the home-income plan litigation facing the society. Legal firms, such as Barnett Sampson, are poised to issue claims on behalf of pensioners who took out WB home-income plans and have suffered losses. The society is also being pursued by the Investors' Compensation Scheme for at least E10 million it has paid to pensioner victims in part settlement of claims.

> Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

# What is on offer for N&P members

Thile the future direction of other building societies remains unclear, the destiny of the National & Provincial (N&P), the seventh in size, is fixed. This week, the society's 1.4 million members received full and, in places, fearsomely complex details of the £1.35 billion Abbey National takeover.

They must east their votes by post by April 6, or in person at Manchester's Nynex arena on April 11. If they give their assent, they should get their windfall by early September, provided that the Building Societies Commission, the industry watchdog, approves.

Under the terms of the deal. qualifying investors, those who had at least £100 in share accounts at December 31, 1995. and at April 28, 1995, stand to receive £500 worth of Abbey National shares. Share accounts are those-which carry

3

Anne Ashworth on the rewards in store

share account are entitled to voting rights, as opposed to deposit accounts which do not receive a cash payment of make you a member of the £750, plus an extra payment of

Borrowers who had at least £100 in a mortgage account at April 28, 1995 and who were with the society at December 31, 1995 should also receive the £500 worth of free shares. If you have both a loan and an account, you can receive two packages of shares.

not be available to longer-term savers, who qualify instead for variable distribution. which will be worth about £3,500. Two-year qualifying savers, those who had at least £100 invested with the society at midnight on December 31. 1993, in the all-important

if the Abbey National deal goes through

7 per cent of the lower of their account balances at April 28, 1995, and at midnight on August 4, 1996. The following day, August 5, is the likely completion date for the deal (called throughout the prospectus the vesting date). All mortgage and share

accounts must be open at August 5, 1996. If you are both This fixed distribution will a two-year qualifying saver and a borrower, you are eligible for both a fixed distribution and a variable distribution. No matter how many accounts you hold, you will be entitled to only one variable or fixed interest distribution. As in other building society merger bonanzas, only the first-named accountholder has the right to vote, a rule laid down not by the building societies themselves but by the **Building Societies Act.** 

that they should buy now rather than wait. Peter Miller,

national housing spokesman for the Royal Institution of

Chartered Surveyors, said:

"There is growing evidence that prices are rising gently and confidence is rising."

This means that first-named holders get the shares. However, the prospectus points out that they should have "regard to the rights of other holders", although it does not specify how these rights should be preserved, perhaps believing this is a private matter between husbands and wives.

The National & Provincial's child savers may not vote and so cannot benefit from either the fixed or the variable distribution. But they will get the statutory cash bonus of some 9 per cent of the account. This will also be given to savers who are not entitled to vote because they had less than. El00 in their share accounts at

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**Schroders** 

A bigger boost to confidence uarter point cuts in short-term interest rates are now more PERSONAL about psychology than direct economic effects. The impact on INVESTOR the money supply, considered central a few years ago, is now discounted. Other-

wise there would have been no cut. People who have to pay three times the base rate on their credit cards are not going to rush our and strip the high street bare. Employees in an uncertain labour market would be just as foolish to borrow for inessential purchases. Would-be homebuyers should not trade up because they can borrow a bit more at the new variable rate. Savers will not turn into spendthrifts in disgust. Companies will not change their investment decisions, or

pay their bills faster. By contrast, the psychological impact of a nice round o per cent base rate should be considerable. Its importance lies in convincing people who are inured to twenty years of boom and slump that the economy can continue to grow indefinitely, albeit at a modest and variable pace. Economic recovery will not auto-matically get out of hand, boost inflation, bring soaring interest rates and land us slap on our faces.

Househuyers will still take some convincing that the nightmare of 15 per cent base rates and double-figure inflation can be dismissed from their calculations. After all, the Treasury and the Bank of England were only persuaded to reverse last year's rate rises because economic growth stuttered briefly to a halt. But there is plenty of reassuring evidence from other countries. notably America. Rising interest rates really can be a method of fine-tuning



growth, as in the textbooks, not the prelude to a crunching adjustment, as in ecent British economic history.

Interest rates can go down, as well as up, without a recession. This is an important message in building confidence. For nearly 3½ years now, base rates have ranged between 5 and 7 per cent. That is in no sense cheap money at today's inflation rates. Growth-mongers across Europe will want to shift the range lower to raise sluggish long-term growth rates and cut unemployment. Unless they win the day, however, the risk of unsustainable boom or slump is now much smaller. For some years ahead, British policymakers of either party will surely think it wiser to keep rebuilding confidence and rely on that to

edge the sustainable growth rate higher. The virtue of dull stability is that people can plan ahead and take decisions that have been put off. This applies both to investors and to borrowers. If building societies and banks are able to

respond to more stable conditions, it will again make sense for many people to tie their mortgages to rates of interest they can afford to pay indefinitely. For this purpose 8 per cent for ten years, the longest realistic fixed borrowing period, still looks a bit pricey. There is quite a big payment for the risk of higher inflation in that figure, inflation that might no longer be reflected in house prices. If that risk element shrinks a bit further, borrowers could stop looking over their shoulder, for fear that they will look silly if something radically cheaper became available. Envy is a poor guide to financial

nvestors can afford to be more sanguine now, because that equation is better for them than for borrowers. While long-term savers should be loyal to equities, mature investors should be thinking about locking in long-term interest rates. Gilt-edged stocks with more than 15 years of life in them offer about 84 per cent. That compares with 34 per cent interest yield on index-linked stocks. implying a 412 per cent payment for

If confidence in stability grows, investors should be able to pocket some of that risk premium. In America, for instance, 10-year Treasury bonds yield about 13 points less than the near 8 per cent available on 10-year gilt-edged stocks, .although yesterday's fall on Wall Street shrinks the gap. And the "real" rate of interest, as shown by the yield on indexlinked stocks, might come down too. But do not look for miracle gains. They only go with high risks.

# Paul Durman on the advantages and drawbacks of index funds

# On track for a steady performance

The gods of publicity have again smiled kindly on Richard Branson and his Virgin Direct financial services

Exactly 12 months from the launch of Virgin Direct's tracker personal equity plan (Pep), Virgin's UK index tracking fund was last week standing top of the one-year performance tables for UK growth and income unit trusts. Its 28.1 per cent growth bettered the results achieved by 136 similar funds, and far outstripped the sector's average return of 18.7 per cent.

This is a compelling contribution to the index versus active fund debate. Most of the other index trackers were also well-placed: Garmore UK Index was fourth (up 26.7 per cent), HSBC Footsie Fund was fifth (26.6 per cent), Legal & General UK Index was 31st (21.8 per cent) and Norwich Union's UK Index Tracking fund was 33rd (21.7 per cent). Rowan Gormley, Virgin Di-

rect's managing director, said: For years, salesmen have earned high commissions by peddling stories of the tremendous returns generated by these strange financial wiz-ards called fund managers.

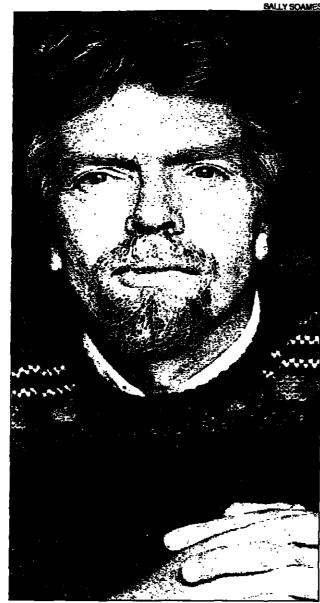
"Active fund managers have to take bets, and don't always get their bets right. But you would have thought someone would have got it right."

Tracker funds are designed to mirror the movement of a chosen stock market index. such as the FT all-share, by buying the stock of the companies that comprise the index. The high placing of the Virgin fund reflects its low charges. When charges are stripped out, on a pure perfor-

mance basis. Virgin is ranked a

more modest 42nd, with HSBC

40th and Gartmore 45th. Over longer periods, the effect of charges becomes relatively less important — which means that the best-performing active funds should beat index funds. Mr Gormley said inves-tors should challenge their fund managers. He said: "If you're holding a Pep, you should call up your fund man-



Richard Branson's Virgin Direct Pep has proved popular

ager and ask him if he's outperformed. If not, is he charging more than a 1 per cent annual management fee and, if so, what is he charging

Last year's strong stock market favoured index funds, since they are usually fully invested and do not, like active funds, have money sitting on deposit. The shares of large companies were particularly strong during 1995, also benefit to the index funds. One attraction of tracker funds is that, although they will rarely top the investment performance charts, equally, they should never be bottom. Alan Gadd, chief executive of HSBC Asset Management, another company that offers a tracker Pep, said: "Many

people aren't looking for the nth degree of performance.

FT-SE 100 PRICE INDEX FT-SE SINCE LAUNCH Octobe 1987 victory 1979

They just know it's better to have their savings in the stock market, and will be comfortable if their money outperforms the building society.

Virgin Direct, Direct Line and others believe that the simplicity of index funds will make Peps attractive to thousands of savers who previous ly shied away from stock market investments. For those don't know their Schroders from their Schreibers, the only thing to understand about an index fund is that shares have traditionally produced much better returns than building society

Even leading investment houses Gartmore and Fidelity, which built their reputations on the back of good perfor-mance, have made a pitch for these new investors and introduced low-cost index funds. Fidelity's Moneybuilder Pep has no initial charge and an annual charge of only 0.5 per cent. This is half the cost of

Direct Line's tracker Pep. Some fund managers remain strongly opposed to indexing. David Mossop, chief executive of Perpetual, points out that index managers are forced to buy the shares of companies even when any informed observer can clearly see that they are facing

Mr Mossop said: \*Polly Peck was a FT-SE 100 comwas going bust for some time before it did so, yet all the index trackers were having to

Perpetual can boast an enviable performance record. Unfortunately, the statistics show

### **6** Active fund managers have to take bets, and don't always get them right 9

that few active managers judge investment decisions so clearly. Mr Mossop can see the attractions of index funds. particularly for those outside the financial world who are unfamiliar with the various investment companies and their reputations, and unable or unwilling to research them. Mr Mossop said: "Index funds are a very good way for

somebody who does not want

TYPES OF COVER

policies are not cheaper - you are paying for

two lives, but only one is going to be paid out,"

says Diane Saunders, an independent finan-

cial adviser in Leeds. "It is far better to take

The difference in premiums between a joint

life and two single policies is minimal. For example, joint life cover of £200,000 for a couple

aged 25 costs £23.10 a month (Scottish Widows).

Single policies would cost £12.53 (Century Life)

out two single policies."

to spend any time or money to do something quite cheaply. It's a bit like buying a Skoda. It will get you from A to B and it's very, very cheap - but it's

hardly an Aston Martin." Tracker Peps are not usually suitable for investors seeking income, since they typically yield little more than 3 per cent. Chris Armstrong, man-aging director of Norwich Union Trust Managers, said: "If a client wants income, he'd be better off with a balanced trust or a corporate bond Pep."

Norwich Union offers an index fund, but has yet to make it available through its Pep. Neil Liversidge, of DBS, the financial advisory network, is sceptical about the strength of interest in indextracking Peps. "There's a demand at present because the market's been rising. Wait until the market's fallen heavily or been moving sideways

for a long time," he said. Tracker funds do not quite reduce the choice of Peo to a question of price. Service and understanding the needs of customers are also important. It is in this area that Virgin Direct and Direct Line believe they have most to teach the traditional financial services

# With this pension I thee split

be forced to review its stance on splitting pensions at divorce after a surprise defeat in the House of Lords last month.

The defeat concerned an amendment to the Family Law Bill, which would allow pensions to be split at the moment of divorce, rather than at retirement.

The Government is against splitting pensions in this way, but may be forced to change its mind when the Bill is discussed in the House of Commons because it cannot risk another defeat.

Under new legislation to be introduced in the middle of this year, divorcing cou-ples will have the option of splitting their pensions as part of their divorce settlement. The new legislation. which will be laid out in the Pensions Act means that any pension will be treated

as deferred maintenance. This new piece of legisla-tion would replace the current arrangements whereby one spouse, usually the wife. keeps the house while the other keeps the pension.

It is aimed at curtailing the numbers of women who rely only on the State to look after them in retirement. Figures show that these numbers are growing rapidly. At present 1.5 million women depend on the State in retirement, conpared with 250,000 men.

The practical details of dividing pensions at retire-ment have not yet been Robin Ellison, pensions

lawyer and partner in The Divorce Corporation, a company that will value the pension for those getting divorced, said that the draft guidelines under the Pensions Act are "unworkable".

He said: "The new proposals allow for the cash equivalent transfer value to be assessed on the pension member's rights. We think it should be based on the rights of the spouse of the member.

The Divorce Corporation this week launched a service. in conjunction with the Abbey National, that will try to provide a valuation of the pension in a non-contentious way. At present, when assessing the value of a pension in a divorce case, solicitors usually write to the pension trustees to try to find out what the transfer value of the pension rights will be. more complicated cases, they will get an actuar-

ial valuation, which could cost from £800 to £1,600. If there is a dispute between husband and wife about the value of the pension, the costs of valuation could be

ebecca Gardiner, a partner in the solici-tors Kenneth Ellion and Rowe, said: "There have been a lot of problems in valuation. Nobody really knows on what basis to do She says that using the

transfer value method could disadvantage the spouses wishing to base their pension on that amount. Transfer values are inevitably lower than the amount in the fund She is encouraging those in the process of divorcing to delay it until after the introduction of the Pensions Act She said: "Some of our advice to those people in the middle of a divorce would be

to wait, especially if there are not any other available as-The Government is against pensions splitting at divorce because it claims it will lose out in tax revenue and it believes that couples could be encouraged to divorce because of the tax savings. Pensions splitting could mean that one spouse could drop out of the higher

CAROLINE MERRELL

rate tax band and pay lower

# Shop around as term assurance premiums take a tumble

In Life's terms than you think, dear



ompetition in the marketplace, and the receding threat of Aids as a mass threat of Aids as a mass killer. have sent rates on term assurance, the simplest kind of life insurance cover, tumbling. This savings to be made.

Choose the right company and you can save more than £8,000 over the policy term. Legal & General, which started the price war last autumn, has just shaved more off its rates to match the latest reductions from Allied Dunhar and Scottish Widows.

Term assurance pays out only if you die within the term of the policy. Homebuyers choosing repayment loans will usually take a term policy which will repay the loan if they die. Buying the policy through the building society has meant that, in the past, borrowers did not shop around for the bestvalue cover.

"We are seeing an attitude change," says Patrick Bunton, of

London & Country, the mortgage broker. "In the past, customers settled with the same bank or building society for ever and a day. Now people are realising that they can look around. It's happened iun moior ano car insurance. It's happened with mortgages. Now it's

In spite of fierce competition among insurers, the gulf between the cheapest and most expensive

BASIC level term assurance pays a fixed lump

sum if you die within a set period, while

decreasing term assurance reduces the poten-

tial payout as time passes and is therefore

often the cheapest cover. Family income

benefit, which is also a decreasing term,

provides a regular income rather than a lump

sum, while convertible policies allow you to

switch to another type of policy, such as an endowment, just before the end of the term.

Term assurance can be taken out singly or

with a partner. With a joint policy, the payout is usually made only for the first to die. "Joint

term assurance remains as wide as ever. Premiums can vary from £30.52 to £58 a month on a level term assurance of £100,000 over 25 years for a 40-year-old male. Put another way, getting the wrong company could cost you £8,244 over the policy term. For a 30-year-old male, wanting £50,000 cover for 25 years, monthly premiums range from £7.45 (Legal & General) to £13.70 (Clerical Medical) — a

difference over the term of £1,875. "Many thousands of people are still paying more than they need to for their term assurance," says Mr Bunton. The problem is that over 60 per cent of life assurance is sold by danks, building societies of fied agents offering only one company's product. Most clients are therefore simply not getting either independent advice or a proper choice."

Premiums have now dropped to the levels they were at in the late Eighties. That means that if you have taken out a policy in the past itve years, you should check whether you are paying over the odds. Since there is not an investment

Changing insurers will mean taking out a new policy. Check the rates by speaking to an indepen-dent financial adviser before you for the female and £16.30 (Scottish Widows)

element, policyholders are free to

cancel one policy and start another.

for the male — an extra £5.73. A spin-off of the recent cut in term assurance is that companies such as Legal & General say they are selling more critical illness policies. Customers are using the savings from life insurance to buy themselves a greater degree of protection.

London & Country's Lifeline (term assurance quote service) is on 0800 373300. Legal & General offers a free Guide to the Protection Maze. Telephone: 0800 663322.

cancel your current policy because developing health problems in the interim or reaching certain age thresholds can affect premiums.

"You need life insurance if somebody else will be financially worse off as result of your death. That includes a spouse, children, parents left with your debts, or even employers or employees," says Penny O'Nions, an independent financial adviser based in Amersham. "But it is a gamble. If you die during the term. The money will be paid out. If you don't die,

you will get nothing back." Always go for a policy that has fixed premiums. Some of the cheapest policies on the market are reviewed annually, and if the premiums rise each year the policy will no longer be cheap.

Insurers who review premiums include Allied Dunbar, Direct Line and Albany Life. Black Horse reviews policies every five years.

SARAH JONES

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Bonds go into the prize draws one full calendar month after the month of purchase. Three month's notice will be given to any changes to the prize structure or interest rate that makes

The Director of Savings reserves the right to seek evidence of identity.

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# Key Plus Points

£1 Million monthly jackpot

New prize structure from 1 May guarantees 350,000 prizes every month

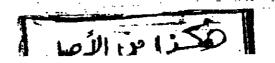
All prizes tax-free

You can invest £100 to £20,000

Money back at any time

Please send this form to: EF1 TM6	National Savings. PREMIUM BONDS, Freepost BJ 2092, Blackpool, FY3 9XR. If you prefer, use a first class stamp for rapid del	n mar.	COU
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### Rebates do little to avert fear of destitute old age s the end of the 20th £58.85 a week, rising in April

century approaches, a 19th-century preoccupation will once more begin to fill our minds. Gripped with a Victorian terror of a destitute old age, we will start to be

anxious about our pensions. Instead of worrying about global warming, we will be wondering whether we will be able to afford to turn up the heating to thaw our aged feet.

At present many have yet to question whether they are saving enough for their retirement. They believe that having a pension, whatever its value, is a safeguard against a Kwik Save lifestyle in their twilight years.

Most assume that their company scheme, or personal pension, will yield a sum infinitely more generous than the basic state pension of

to £61.15. But, as we report on page 39, achieving even this low level of income requires a large lump-sum investment of £36,000.

Despite its wish to see the population accumulate more than adequate pensions, the Government is responsible for perpetuating the myth that simply having a pension

To persuade employees to leave Serps, the additional state scheme, the Department of Social Security offers a sweetener in the shape of a very modest National Insurance rebate. Unfortunately, three million of the five million who left Serps are not making extra contributions to their personal pensions, a

calamitous statistic. Next week, a new range of



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

age-related rebates will be announced with the aim of encouraging those over 40 to stay out of Serps until their retirement. The current rebate system makes it more advantageous for the middleaged to rejoin the scheme. despite the reductions in its

These changes present the Government with an opportunity to make clear to those leaving Serps that they must

make their own provision. Instead of dwelling on the extraordinary generosity of the rebate, they should stress that it is designed as an incentive, not a full contribution.

This is a pertinent point that ministers have always avoided in the past, in their anxiety to promote universal pensions independence, and to shrink Serps liabilities. Insurance companies sell-

The Halifax Building So-

troduce what it calls a "service

fee". Other societies prefer the term "procurement fee", while

others like "marketing support

fee". These are just a few of the

euphemisms used to describe the commission paid to mort-gage brokers by societies for

placing business with them. The fees start at about £100

and rise to £250. In some

cases, the fee is in proportion

to the size of the loan, usually

However, in spite of the move

towards greater disclosure of charges on all financial prod-

ucts and the introduction of a

code of practice by the Council

of Mortgage Lenders, these fees

do not have to be disclosed to

customers, who will inevitably

have to pay them. Those who

are aware of the fees can ask

their mortgage adviser to dis-

close them. The potential pitfall

in this system of remuneration

0.25 per cent.

ciety. Britain's largest lender, is poised to in-

those who decamp from Serps should reinforce the message that extra investment is necessary, especially since as much as El of every £4 spent on a personal pension can disappear in insurance company charges.

Spend £50 each month on housing and you cannot expect millionaire's row. The same, unfortunately, applies to pensions.

Mutual comfort

A 0.25 percentage point cut in the mortgage rate tends to mean a 0.3 percentage point fall in savers' rates. Those depressed by this glum rule of thumb can find some cheer in the news that societies determined to remain mutual

say they will decrease their

petitors who are headed for the stock market,

معكدا من الاصل

Investment rates at the National & Provincial have been unexciting since the announcement of the take-over by the Abbey National. Investors can expect to receive even less when N&P accounts become Abbey accounts.

A small print paragraph in the 176-page prospectus, a blockbuster read, reveals that Abbey rates are "slightly lower" (and how). By way of compensation, N&P savers will have access to a "more comprehensive branch network". A strange point, given that millions of investors nowadays prefer to save by post. N&P savers will, I think, find more comfort in their

### A game of the name on new fees

is that brokers could be tempted to place the business with the lender that pays the highest commission, rather than the one giving the customer

the most appropriate deal. These fees are growing in size and popularity as the squeeze on mortgage lending has meant that societies are more and more dependent on third parties, such as independent financial advisers, for business. Some of the UK's biggest societies estimate that between half and two thirds of

their mortgage business comes from third parties. Halifax declined to say how much of its lending was introduced via this route, saying that such information was commercially sensitive. A spokesman said: "A reasonable proportion of our business is introduced. It is closely monitored, and we are going to introduce a service fee pro-gramme, which will pay selected intermediaries commis-

sion depending on the amount of business they generate." Ian Darby, marketing di-rector of John Charcol, the mortgage broker, said that fees had grown rapidly. He added: "There are all sorts of different deals on the market. The amount will depend on any added value the broker

N&P pays "introducers" about 0.25 per cent, as does Bradford & Bingley. Alliance & Leicester pays £100, while Mortgage Trust pays £300.

### Over 55? Why not enjoy a tax free income? Life may begin at 40, but

tax free income for you begins at 55 for 20 years. That is, if you have invested in the right place. You see, we have a plan which gives you tax free income from investment funds which have already been taxed at source.

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# The drawbacks of cashback options

Borrowers must

be aware of the tax implications,

says Caroline

Merrell

origages that offer the borrower a large cash lump sum up front may carry an unexpected sting in the tail in the form of capital gains tax.

The possibility of buying a new home and having enough money to furnish it properly has proved an alluring combination for thousands of borrowers. Lenders, in an attempt to increase market share, now offer cashback options of up to

The Northern Rock Building Society offers a cashback scheme of up to £9,000. It says that 1.000 people a week are registering an interest in taking out this sort of loan. especially since it began to advertise the scheme on

television. However, borrowers who vish to take advantage of the Sorthern Rock scheme or similar ones should be aware. of the tax implications.

The Inland Revenue points out that, in some circumstances, the lump sum will be liable to capital gains tax. Paying 40 per cent capital gains tax on £9,000 would leave the borrower with a lump sum of £5,400. Taking out a cashback scheme could also push some over their own individual annual CGT exemption of £6,000.

An Inland Revenue spokesman said: "Some of the schemes are liable for capital gains tax and some of them are not." He said that the Revenue would consider each



Lenders are offering cashback options of up to £10,000

particular scheme on its own merits and liaise with the particular society. For example National & Provincial Building Society offers a cashback scheme that has a

centage of the advance. Phil Reed, National & Provincial spokesman, said that the Revenue position was not entirely clear. He added: "Our feeling is that if it can be shown that it is used for the purposes of moving, then it will not be liable for the tax."

He said that those who benefit from bigger amounts of cash were more likely to

maximum lump sum option of £7.500. The size of the cashback is based on a per-

have to pay capital gains tax. The society claimed that those taking a cashback should consider their individual tax

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Sources: It 1980, Unl. [29, 1, 9] to 5]. 1-96. 2. Financial Times Actionies. 3: House Cover Smaller Companies Indo-cool links to the links of the clum. Albert E Sharp Smaller Companies Unit Trust is managed by Unit 1. Sharp Fund Managers Int on behalf of Albert E Sharp Albert E Sharp Fund Managers Ind is regulated Unit 1. Sharp Fund Managers and is regulated in 1880. But partiormance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Unless of units and missing them there can fall as well as rise.

You reap the rewards.

We take the awards.

Companies Index over the same period.

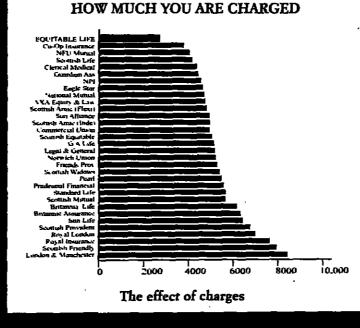
position. It said that it advised anyone taking out a scheme of possible tax implications.

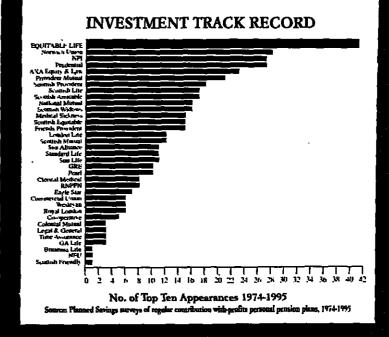
The Bradford & Bingley Building Society offers a cashback scheme that will na out a maximum of £6,000. Bradford & Bingley said that borrowers opting for its scheme should check with their tax office to find out whether they

have to pay the tax. A spokesman said that cashback schemes were decreasing in popularity. He added: "A year ago, cashbacks were at the height of their popularity. Now borrowers are more likely to

opt for discounts." Northern Rock added that it alerted borrowers to the possibility that they may have to pay tax. It added that the television advertisement did not need to carry any such warning.

# IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY A PENSION, MAKE SURE IT'S ONE OF THE BEST ON THE MARKET.





Choosing a personal pension plan is not an easy task. Superficially, many plans can look similar, so what factors should you consider when making

Price, performance and flexibility are perhaps the key indicators that will enable you to differentiate the wheat from the chaff.

### PRICE

New rules came into force last year which require companies to disclose to potential buyers the cost of investments such as personal pension plans. Comparing the charges made by different companies can be quite revealing.

The chart above left compares the effect of the charges made by various companies to recoup such costs as commission, remuneration and administration for a £200 pm, 10 year regular contribution with-profits personal pension plan. Source: Money Management, October 1995.

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PERFORMANCE

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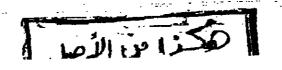
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Marianne Curphey examines the growth in ethical investment

# WEEKEND

an you serve both God and Mammon? A repor published this week pours scorn on the growing number of investment funds that which call themselves "ethical". While applauding investors who want to take a moral stand on where they put their money, it condemns the trend as reflecting "frivolous fashionable causes" rather than serious ethics and says the title is often self-appointed.

Ethical funds, once dismissed as products for cranks, are becoming increasingly popular: last year there was £1 billion under investment in them.

three times the figure in 1990. There are 30 ethical funds in the UK, including two investment trusts. When the first fund was established in 1984 by Charles Jacobs, the fund manager of the Methodist Church's investments, it was expected to attract only £2 million. In fact it now man-

ages close on £500 million. In theory, these funds enable you to invest only in companies and countries of whose politics and policies you approve. It is also possible to put together your own selection of favoured shares, although you will probably need at least £50,000 in order to

achieve a balanced portfolio. Ethical funds most commonly avoid industries or companies with military connections, those which manufacture alcohol or tobacco, conduct animal experiments, pollute air or water, exploit the Third World, encourage gambling or produce nuclear pow-

er or pornography. Those which make a positive contribution to human life - providing food, clothing, shelter, recycling facilities, waste management, renewable energy, safety and protection equipment or companies with fair wages and equal

opportunities policies - are However, the Social Affairs Unit's report is scornful of ethical investment because ethics is "about careful judgments on what people do with products". Dr Peter Hodgson. the Oxford physicist, a contributor, says the refusal to invest in the nuclear industry "implies litl is totally bad, which is absurd. What about the use of to of nuclear radiation in medi-

civil power?"



# Led by your conscience and pocket

tween 25 and 44, probably a teacher, doctor or social worker, possibly a Christian, even a vegetarian, ethical investment is heading for mainstream

acceptance. The Ethical Investment Research Service (Eiris) has a list of nearly 30 independent financial advisers who specialise in ethical investments. Eiris provides research both for fund managers of ethical trusts, and individuals. For just over £43, Eiris will assess the ethical credentials of an individual's portfolio of 20 shares, while for £100 it will provide a list of 100 shares which meet your specific investment criteria. The research unit also investigates

It does not hold information on Japan or the Far East at

Peter Webster, Eiris executive secretary, says information is collated from questionnaires, annual reports and independent research. "If we ask a company whether it has a policy of not testing cosmetics on animals, for example, and we receive no reply, we would assume it does not have a strong ethical stance on that

The first, and one of the largest funds, is the Friends Provident Stewardship unit trust. The best performers include Credit Suisse Fellowship and NPI Global Care Fund.

You can put any of the three

into a general personal equity

plan. Worries about performance have in the past dissuaded some from going for the ethical option, although most ethical Peps perform

reasonably well. However, their behaviour may be more volatile than the market as a whole because they invest in smaller, newer or more politically sensitive

companies. Pat Meehan, partner in Holden Meehan, a firm of independent financial advisers specialising in ethical investments, says ethical UK trusts have made an average return of 14.94 per cent over the past 12 months -- about the same as the rest of the UK growth sector of unit trusts, while internationally they have outperformed the sector by 5 per cent, at 11.6 per cent.

He says: "These funds invest in companies like Marks & Spencer, which is well known for its positive attitude towards its staff, customers and its high quality control." Ethical funds are not the cheapest on the market. Typically their annual Pep management charge is about 1.25 to 1.5 per cent, the average for

unit trust Peps. Eiris is on 0171 735 1351: Holden Meehan's ethical investment guide is available on

01179 252874.

# cine? Or nuclear reactors for the alternative investment Nevertheless, while the ar- market, companies in the allcherypal ethical investor was share index and any European

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Sara McConnell discovers that people developed a taste for renting during the slump

# Where did all the buyers go?

heap mortgage money and special deals from desperate lenders have combined to cut the running costs of home loans to levels not seen since the late 1960s. At 7.25 per cent, the current standard variable rate for new borrowers (effective April 1 for existing borrowers) is at its lowest since 1968 and servicing mortgage payments needs an average of just 11.56 per cent of a first-time buyer's gross monthly income. according to the Woolwich Building Society.

With running costs for buy-ers at an all-time low, renting looks an expensive option. Winkworth, the London estate agent, has calculated that someone buying a house worth £115,000 would face annual running costs of £5,875 a year. including insurance and maintenance costs, while the cost of renting the same house would be £9,230 (see table).

The downside of buying is that the upfront costs are much higher than renting, but Winkworth argues that this should be partly compensated for by capital growth. Simon Agace, chairman of Winkworth, said: "You should bear in mind the compounding nature of appreciation over the years." Winkworth is expecting capital growth in central London this year of 8 per cent, much higher than the 3 per cent assumed in its figures.

But many people who could well afford to buy are still choosing to rent. Rowena Wild, director of lettings at Chestertons, says: "People are renting more than ever. People need flexibility. First-time buyers came under a lot of pressure under the Thatcher regime to be homeowners. But now the more astute person rents for a while, gives a job time to settle down. They can follow a job if they like the area."

During the property boom. anyone who could afford to do so scrambled on to the property ladder before house prices

by the month. But rising interest rates and the resulting housing slump dealt a swinge ing blow to the hopes of millions of homeowners. Those who would normally have bought had second thoughts and rented as they saw people struggling with repossession and negative equity. Rising unemployment and job insecurity made people reluctant to loans. The supply of property to rent grew as homeowners who had to move but could not sell rented to cover mortgages.

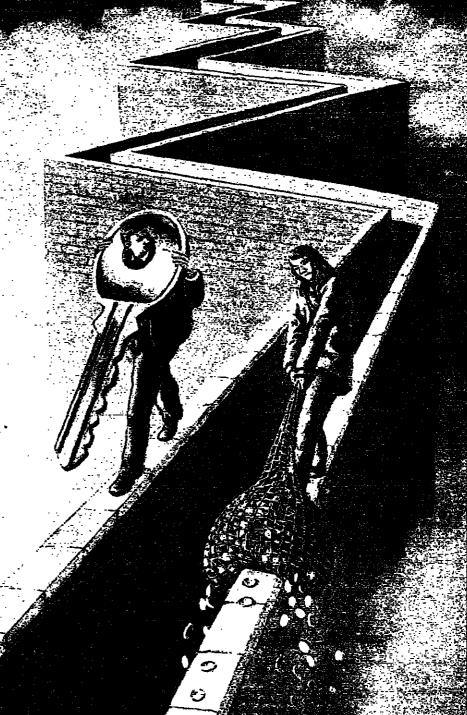
The housing market is finally starting to emerge from the doldrums, but many have discovered that they like renting and letting agents are strug-gling to meet demand. Ms Wild said: "It is no longer a stigma to rent as it would have been five or six years ago if you said in middle-class circles that you were renting. Now you are considered astute."

thers believe there are more fundamental changes at work in the housing market, which will help to right the existing imbalance in favour of buying at the expense of renting. Many are concerned that the Government's emphasis on wider homeownership in the Eighties pushed people into buying who

would have done better to rent. Marcus Balderston, chairman of the residential lettings and management committee at the National Association of Estate Agents, says some of the continuing demand for rental property is beginning to be satisfied by individuals and companies buying property to rent out, while house prices are low and mortgages cheap. They

can get a return of between 5 and 10 per cent on their investment. They are buying up some of the hastily converted and hard-to-sell studios and onebedroom flats, helping to take some of the slack out of the bottom end of the market. But the estimated 30 per cent of rental homes owned by people wanting to sell will gradually disappear as house prices rise

and they get an acceptable offer.



BUYING

You buy a house for £115,000, putting down a deposit of £15,000 and taking a mortgage of £100,000 at a rate of 7%. Assumptions are that the property appreciates at 3% a year and that you could have earned 4 % net on your savings if you had not used them for the deposit. Your upfront buying costs including survey, valuation and legal fees are £3,155

Cost of mortgage: \$7,000 (7%) Buildings insurance and repair/r

Total cost £9,325

The annual cost of buying is £3,355.67 cheaper than renting

Azouel manning costs

Capital appreciation @ 3% per annum; £3,450 Total annual cost: £5,875

Cost of renting (net): £9,200

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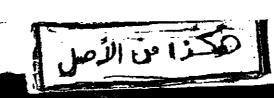
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f you are considering in-Take stalling a burglar alarm system solely to reduce the payments on your home contents insurance, think again. The savings will not be sufficare cient to recoup the installation costs for many years, let alone the annual service charges. There are, however, good reasons to install an electronic over

alarm system if you live in a high-crime area, have an unusual number of valuables or are merely concerned about security. Insurers agree that most intruders are opportunistic. A burglar on the prowl is unlikely to choose the house with the alarm system. How much you save by installing an alarm will de-

pend entirely on your insurer. Some now insist on burglar alarms before they offer coverage in some areas. If so, you will not get a reduced premi-um by fitting an alarm. For those who are not required to have alarms, the savings vary enormously. General Accident, for example, offers a 5 per cent discount. Direct Line's discount is 10 per cent, while Commercial Union gives a 15 per cent reduction. The alarm must be approved by your insurer, or you will get no reduction in premi-

says a basic system could be installed for £700 to £1,000. ums. Most insurers do not including a control panel, pasgive discounts for do-it-yourself alarm kits, and many sive infra-red detector, personspecify that the installation be al attack buttons and outside done by a member of the National Approval Council for

about annual maintenance charges. You may also have to pay to install an extra phone line for the system and there may be charges to change keyholders (neighbours who have your keys). Some systems only provide the alarm sounder, or charge extra for a police hook-up. A small, local company may offer better deals than the big players. If your goal is to reduce your

insurance premiums, some insurers place more weight on other security measures. Gen-eral Accident says customers can save up to 40 per cent by joining a neighbourhood watch scheme and passing a free home security check by one of its brokers. Commercial Union offers a 5 per cent discount for belonging to neighbourhood watch. Direct Line's discount is only 25 per cent, but fitting approved locks and bolts will save you 5 per cent. Many insurers also offer bonuses to customers who have not made a claim during

a specified period.

If you do decide to fit your own alarm, the British Sec-urity Industry Association suggests talking to a crime prevention officer first. "I always advise people to start with their crime prevention officer. He will know what he's talking about and he's free," a spokesman said.

Nacoss, Queensgate House, 14 Cookham Road, Maiden-



Will insurance cover repairs to damage caused by an invasion from outer space?

### Tin hats — and policies at the ready on Tuesday

THE chance of a Chinese satellite crashing into your home on Tuesday is far greater than the odds of winning the National Lottery. The odds of the satellite landing in Britain when it falls to Earth next week are 300-to-1. Unlike other hardware in space, the Chinese satellite is not designed to breakup on entering the Earth's atmosphere. The good news, for home-

when the satellite hits, is that many household insurance buildings and contents policies will cover any damage caused by an object from the air hitting your home. Midland Bank said buildings damage would be covered under its general "objects from the air" clause while contents would be covered under "accidental damage".

owners who happen to be out

Direct Line said: "Collision with the building directly caused by any moving object

originating outside your home would be covered." General Accident said: "Strictly speaking, a satellite crashing into your home would not be covered because our policy covers aircraft and other airborne devices and a satellite or meteorite being pulled by gravity back to Earth is not airborne. But we would take a sympathetic view if something like this did happen."

Bradford & Bingley said a satellite re-entering the Earth's atmosphere would be classified as an aircraft, and Meteorite damage, on the other hand, would not be included in standard buildings cover. Homeowners would need to extend the policy to include accidental damage. ☐ A study conducted by MORI for Midland Bank shows almost one in three people have no home protec-# tion of any kind.

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5 out of 6 funds are in the top 25% of their sectors for their performance over 5 years. Positions are to 1st March 1996 and are on an offer-to-offer US Dollar basis, inclusive of reinvested income, net of withholding taxes (source: Micropal). Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it can go down as well as up (this may partly be a result of exchange rate fluctuations) and you may not get back the amount invested.

مكذا من الأصا

The motor industry is divided as to whether

insurance premiums will rise because of the recent

bad weather, after General

Accident's announcement last

month that its customers face

Drivers in provincial towns.

who have seen the greatest

reductions in premiums, are

in line for a 4 per cent increase

next month, according to Gen-

eral Accident. The company

covers about 5 per cent of the

personal motor market and

writes 700,000 policies annu-

ally, the majority of which are

Rates have been low for the

past 18 months, putting pres-

sure on some of the smaller

players. In January, Britannic-

Assurance pulled out of the

market after the number of its

policyholders fell more than 30

per cent in two years to 26,000,

compared with more than two

Royal Insurance, the third

largest motor insurer, and

Direct Line, the largest insur-

er, are among those that

predict an increase in motor

premiums. Direct Line said:

We feel prices in the current

market are unsustainable at

the current level. But we're

more likely to look at selective

price increases, than across

the board." Direct Line's fore-

cast comes after an average

fall in premiums across the

DOWMENT

E - NE NOR

million for Direct Line.

renewed in January.

increased costs.

Cold comfort for drivers?

Morag Preston asks if the cost of

covering a car is about to rise

launch its own direct opera-

tion to rival Direct Line, the

first week of January will cost

the industry £380 million, a

relatively small amount. Mark Wood, managing direc-

tor at AA Insurance, accuses

insurers of trying to talk up rates. This wouldn't even

register on a radar screen. The

weather was only bad for a

short period of time, during

which people usually don't tend to drive."

from an underwriting point of

view, but they will either stay

at that level or go down a little

more. There are still people in

the market who will keep rates

down. A big factor will be the

entry of building societies.

bringing with them another

wave of competitive pressure,

which is all tremendous news

The Association of British

Insurers (ABI) reports an in-

crease in motor accident

claims compared with last

year, after the winter cold

spell, but says most insurance

companies will have made

contingencies. "An isolated

for the consumer."

e added: "Rates have

gone lower than they should have done

relatively

per cent more per policy in the first two months of this year,

compared with last year,

because of the bad weather.

David Stevens, pricing direc-

tor at Admiral Insurance.

said: This is the straw that's

going to break the camel's

back. Prices have been drifting

downwards over the past six

months, but they'll soon to be

too low for insurers to make a

tend to be more random than other claims. They tend to come from older drivers living

in the countryside with no-

claims bonus. These will affect

insurers such as General Acci-

dent and Direct Line, whereas

Admiral tends to quote youn-

Sandy Dunn, managing di-

rector of Touchline Insurance,

which has 200,000 policyhold-

ers, said: "It is unlikely that

rates will go any lower. Premi-

ums should stabilise for at

least six months and then

gradually rise during the later

months of 1996. This rise will

signal the beginning of contin-

ual increases in rates into 1997

and 1998, although the

However, not everyone in

amounts will be marginal."

ger drivers living in cities."

Weather-related claims

decent profit.

sector of 5 per cent last year. case of bad weather is unlikely the motor industry agrees Admiral Insurance, direct there will be an increase in to increase premiums across car insurer at Lloyd's of premiums. According to AA the board." It emphasises that London, said it is spending 10 Insurance, which is set to where premiums might rise. You found Tessa attractive but have you seen her

> "She's only with the Woolwich"

sister?

Now you can reinvest your TESSA capital and

"a lot depends on the individual company's claims experi-ence and the type of policy holder they insure".

The ABI points out that over

the past couple of years, there

has been a reduction in the

number of motor thefts. The

cost of private theft to insurers

was £499 million in 1993 and

James Wootten, director of

Motor Advice, the database

service, says motorists can expect a rise in their insur-

ance, but not for 18 months.

"Right now, companies are

under pressure to drop their

rates, but anybody who tries to up them is faced with losing a lot of business as a

Mr Wootten outlines how

difficult it will be over the next

three years for small niche

players in a market that has

been radically altered by the

direct telephone insurers.

"There are a number of com-

panies that have to get to a

reasonable size in the direct

market, or get out of it . . . The

bigger the operation, the less

you are subject to fluctuation.

The lower you can quote, the

less you have to spend on

Motor Advice highlights the

wide range of quotes for a 30-

year-old man, living in

London W6, who drives a 1995

Rover 414i, with a maximum

no-claims bonus. Guardian

Direct quotes £192: Admiral

Insurance £298; General Acci-

dent Direct £326; and Direct

£464 million in 1994.

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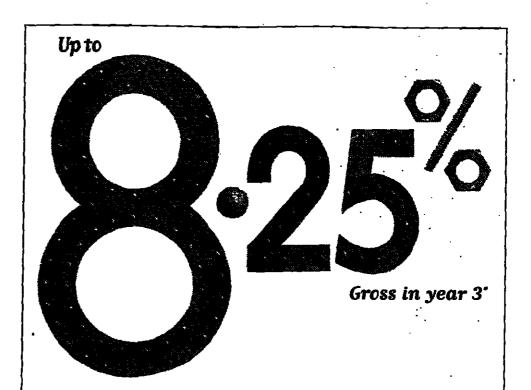
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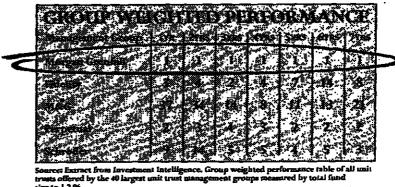
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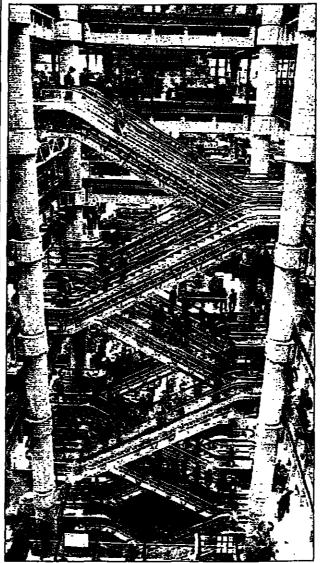
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Lloyd's has lost more than £8 billion in the past five years

## Make or break time for Lloyd's of London

loday is D-day for some 34,000 names, the indi-viduals who back the insurance market with their own capital. The postman willing, they will learn, for the first time, how much money they need to find to clear their underwriting debts and leave Lloyd's of London for good. Quite sim-ply, it is make or break time for the 300-year-old insur-

ance market. Names will receive a pack that holds the key to their financial future. The pack comprises four separate statements, a 48-page guide interpreting the statements. and a covering letter from David Rowland, the chairman of Lloyd's.

What does it all mean?

Lloyd's of London has lost more than £8 billion in the past five years and thousands of names have resorted to legal action in a bid to win compensation for their losses. The prospect of years of litigation and the increasing problem of names refusing to pay their debts threatened to destroy the Names should find out

today about their financial

future, says Sarah Bagnall

insurance market. As a result. last May, Lloyd's revealed a £2.8 billion reconstruction and renewal plan aimed at resolving these problems so it can start afresh.

The plan involves an £800 million out-of-court settlement and the writing off of £2 billion worth of names debts.

The pack, entitled Indicative Finality Statement, provides every name with an estimate of how much he or she will have to pay over and above any assets already held at Lloyd's to off-load existing liabilities to Equitas, a new reinsurance company.

This crucial number is at the bottom of page one under the heading Estimated finality (cost)/surplus taking into account funds at Lloyd's".

For the vast majority of names, this figure will not exceed £100,000. However, the statement is only an estimate and the final figure due out in June may vary. But for 95 per cent of names, the variation will not exceed £15,000.

The statement details the name's share of the £2.8 billion and his or her total liabilities. Problems paying the finality

For many names, finding the money to pay their bills poses a serious problem. There are several initiatives aimed at

helping these names. I. Tranche 4: Up to £150 million of the £2 billion of debt write-offs has been set aside to reduce the bills of those who cannot afford to pay. To qualify for a share of Tranche 4

cash, names must apply. 2. Structured payment plan: Again, names must apply. 3. Special mortgage plan: For many names the fact that their deposits at Lloyd's are to be exhausted raises the threat of having to sell their homes. Names have to have funds at Lloyd's to support their underwriting and, in many cases, the funds are in the form of bank guarantées secured against their homes. As a result, Lloyd's is offering a special mortgage plan for names resident in the UK. which is aimed at preventing the forced sale of homes.

The reconstruction and renewal plan has numerous and Helpline: 0800 454 787.

highly complex but important tax implications. The situation for each name varies, depend-ing on the individual's particu-

Action names need to take I. Contact your financial ad-

viser for tax advice. 2. Contact Lloyd's if you want to apply for help under Tranche 4 and it will send you Form Two, which has to be completed by April 27. The application involves a means

3. If you are interested in the special mortgage scheme, con-tact Lloyd's by the end of this month.

There is also a Lloydy helpline.

#### Confidentiality

Many names are concerned about providing Lloyd's with any information on their financial affairs that may be used against them if the reconstruction and renewal plan fails. Lloyd's has undertaken that the information will not be used for anything

Is the new scheme a once and for all solution to the

That is the idea. The plan is that Lloyd's problems can be put firmly in the past and a new, clean Lloyd's can sail off into the sunset while names can, if they want, leave the market and never be faced with another bill.

In theory, the debts could revert back to names if Equitas is deemed not to have sufficient assets to meet its liabilities.

Can the reconstruction and renewal plan be rejected by

Yes. Names have to vote to accept their individual offer from Lloyd's. It is not known yet what level of acceptance is required for the scheme to go-

If it fails, what next? If the plan fails, then Lloyd's will collapse. Views differ on the impact that this will have

on names. Lloyd's has given a warning that names would be ruthlessly pursued by the Department of Trade and Industry for immediate payment of their losses. There will be no chance of negotiating a gentlemanly agreement to delay part of the payment or write off part of the debt.

The opposing argument is that names would be better off because it will be too complicated for policyholders to pursue each individual name for payment of claims. This is wishful thinking rather than reality as liquidators and debt collectors are well-known for their tenacity.

# 

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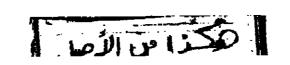
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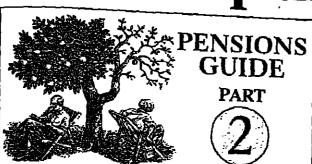
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The size of contributions will affect your standard of living, Helen Pridham finds

## Build up the retirement fund



ension providers never tire of pointing out that the earlier you start saving for your pension the better. But research indicates that we generally save the minimum, but expect the maximum from our pension.

Steve Bee, pensions manager at the Prudential, says: Most people don't understand the cost of a pension. They think if they save £30 a month it is enough. To put it in context, I usually compare it to the cost of a house because to get a good pension you need a similar size of asset, say a £100,000 fund. Then I ask people what kind of house would you get for £30 a month nowadays. A good pension is more expensive than many

if you have a personal pension, or are a member of employer's money purchase scheme, the size of your pension fund at reurement will be the main factor determining how much pension you will receive. The sums you need to generate an adequate pension are significant. Mr Bee says: "Although most people do not think the state pension is worth much [the basic retire-ment pension is currently E58.85p a week], to get that much pension with your own money today from an annuity you would need to invest a lump sum of £36,000."

One way of starting to work out how much you should be saving for your retirement is to consider how much income you would need if you retired today and then find out what size of fund would be required to generate this level of income. A survey by Barclays Life found that 71 per cent of people would like more than half of their current income during retirement, while 2) per cent believed they would need 90 to 100 per cent of their

current salary. Norwich Union has produced an "underfundometer" to help people to get to grips with the sums. The retirement income you want appears next to the size of fund currently needed to provide that amount. So, if you want an

income of £10,000 you would need a fund of £94,088,90 based on Norwich Union's current annuity rates.

Unfortunately, the "underfundometer" does not tell you how much you need to save to build up the required funds. Assuming future growth of 9 per cent, for instance, a 35year-old would need to save £74.30 a month to accumulate a fund of £100,000 by 65, while a 45-year-old would have to contribute £185.50 a month.

This does not, however, take inflation into account. As Tony Solomon, of Eagle Star, points out: "We do not actually know how much £100,000 will be worth when we retire or what interest rates will be. For example, if inflation averaged 6 per cent over the next 25 years you would need \$400,000 to retain the same

purchasing power."
The problem of inflation can be partly met with a personal pension by opting for a plan where your pension contributions rise gradually each year either at a given percentage. say 5 per cent, or in line with the retail price index or aver-

Another way of arriving at a realistic level of pension contributions is to save a fixed percentage of your earnings. This is the way company schemes work. But members of such schemes cannot afford to be complacent. Very few end up with anything like maximum benefits, which is why additional voluntary contributions should be considered.

For help in assessing your pension contributions you could ask your insurer or an independent financial adviser.

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On the right tracks: the younger you start a pension, the more you are likely to receive

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### PAYMENTS THROUGH THE AGES

THE UNDER 35s

Contributions to a pension scheme made now are the most valuable because they have most time to grow. ☐ Join your employer's pension scheme, if one is available. Your employer will also contribute to your pension. ☐ If you do not have access to a company scheme, start a per-

can adapt to changes. ☐ If you are an employee and do not have access to a company scheme, consider opting out of the state earnings related pen-sion scheme — but check that you are earning enough to make this worthwhile.

sonal pension but make sure it

THE 35 TO 55s If you have not started a pension plan, or are not contributing, there is no time to lose. Save as much as you can. Remember, you get tax relief on your contributions.

☐ If you have a personal pension, review your contributions. Have premiums risen in line with salary? If you have spare lump sums make one-off single premium pension contributions. ☐ Even if you have been a member of company pension schemes, any job changes will have impacted on your benefits. Consider additional vol-untary contributions (AVCs),

Topping up your contributions with lump sums is still worthwhile because of the added tax relief.

especially if you are consider-ing early retirement.

☐ With a personal pension. mop up tax relief from previous years when maximum contributions were not made. ☐ Lump sum investments can also be made in AVCs, but cannot be backdated.

Age at start of plan of £100,000*	Monthly Premium	Projected Fund Size*	Premium required to build up fund
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35	£25 £50	229,100 265,100	£74,30
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0345 665522

### **CGT ALLOWANCES — JANUARY 1996**

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation altor disposed of in January 1996 January February 0.555 0,496 0.448 0,553 0,493 0,443 0,891 0.807 0.717 0.619 0.553 0.493 0.443 0.853 0.782 0.694 0.585 0.538 0.475 0.420 0.840 0.775 0.688 0.578 0.535 0.474 0.414 0.835 0.770 0.684 0.574 0.536 0.474 0.409 0.834 0.753 0.670 0.573 0.535 0.471 0.392 0.835 0.745 0.667 0.574 0.528 0.467 0.386 0.817 0.733 0.651 0.568 0.513 0.453 0.365 0.353 0.257 0.154 0.108 0.089 0.063 0.314 0.201 0.128 0.082 0.088 0.042 0.008 0.306 0.190 0.125 0.078 0.084 0.038 0.004 0.300 0.185 0.123 0.082 0.068 0.043 0.007 0.297 0.173 0.120 0.081 0.083 0.038 0.002 0.288 0.162 0.116 0.077 0.058 0.036 0.278 0.153 0.112 0.074 0.059 0.034

The Fil month for disposels by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 198

0.268 0.155 0.108 0.075 0.081 0.034

0.264 0.156 0.107 0.079 0.058 0.029

0.003

## A low cost PEP for these investment trusts is available now.

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**SCOTTISH WIDOWS** 

## THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

### Jobless must sign on for NI credits

The Department of Social Security has clarified the position on credits towards the basic state retirement pension during periods of unemployment. These are not only given when unemployment benefit is being received. Barra McGachy. a DSS spokesman, says: "Provided people are available for work and are actively seeking work, that is they are signing on', they will get NI credits for the whole period. It has nothing to do with the benefits they are receiving. For men between the ages of 60 and 65, it is not necessary to sign on because credits are given automatically."

■ Most higher rate taxpayers and those who want a higher tax-free income on their investments should consider choosing a venture capital trust, according to the David Aaron Partnership, which has published a guide to this subject. The 24-page booklet compares ordinary investments with Venture Capital Trusts, highlighting the tax breaks and potential returns available. The guide details the 11 current funds on offer, recommending a top seven, and advises on how to select a trust. The most important

Investment (£)

5,000 10,000

20,000 50,000

5,000 20,000

1,000

5.000 20,000

1,000

5,000 20,000

1,000

3,000 20,000

50,000

1 Year

2 Years

3 Years

4 Years

5 Years

**GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS** 

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at March 6, 1996

Company

AIG Life AIG Life AIG Life

Fin Assurance

Fin Assurance

Fin Assurance

Premium Life

Fin Assurance Fin Assurance

Fin Assurance

Premium Life Fin Assurance Fin Assurance

Premium Life

Source. Chambertein de Broé 0171-434 4222. Net retes, Income and capital guarat Farty surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

Fin Assurance Abbey Life Abbey Life

factor in choosing the r VCT, is the experience of manager in investing in sm er companies, particula those with assets of below million, Mr Aaron says. F copies are available un March 18, and afterwards £5 per copy. Write to: Shelton House, High Stre Woburn Sands, Milt Keynes, MK17 8SD.

RBS Advanta will be justing the rate charged on Visa card from April 1. in l with the base rate change from 6.25 to 6.00 per cent, announced yesterday. The RBS Advanta credit card company, a partnership between The Royal Bank of Scotland and the Advanta Corporation, one of the largest card issuers in the US, launched its Visa card last month. RBS Advanta, which charges no annual fee, has a fixed formula and timescale for calculating their rate in response to all hase rate changes. The new APR will be 15.6 per cent. compared with an old rate of 15.9 per cent and the monthly rate will now be 1.22 per cent. For more information, contact RBS Advanta on 0800 077770.

LIZANNE ROSE

Standard Rate (%)

4.95 5.10

5.25 5.35 5.50

5.50 5.60

5.75 5.85

5.10

6.40

6.60

PERSONAL LOANS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Inter P
Portman BS 01202 292444	Instant Access	Instant	£100	4.80	
Buckinghamshire BS 01494 873064	Chiltem Gold	Postal	£1,000	5.30	
Co-operative Bank 0345 252000	Pathfinder	Instant	£5,000	5.37	
Direct Line 0181 667 1121	Inst Savings	Instant	\$25,000	6.00	
		Notice			Inte
NOTICE ACCOUNTS AND BONDS	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	F
Manchester BS 0161 8349465	45 Day	45 day	£25,000	6.55	
Brad & Bingley BS 0345 248248	Direct 90	90 day p	£15,000	6.80	
Brad & Bingley BS 0345 248248	Direct 90	90 day p	230,000	7.20	
Chelsea BS 0800 272505	120 Account	120 day	25,000	6,50	
		Notice			Inte
FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	of term	Deposit	Rate	F
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836		5 year	£9,000	7.30	F
Allied Trust Bank 0171 6260879		5 year	£9,000	7.25	
Cheltenham & Glouc 0800 717505		5 year	£3,000	7.25	
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£25	7.25	

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.92%G	11.50%	Nil C
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.00%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 0800 161616	MasterCard	1.14%	14.50%	Nil C

£114.41 £116.54 Direct Line 0141 2489966 £103.14 Midland 0800 180180 £113.94 £103.33 Clydesdale Bank 0800 240024 Nb. C = no interest free period, D = for debt consolidation only, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), G = Annual rate 5% above R Fleming base rate, OM denotes interest paid on maturity, P = By Post only

\* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01592 500 677)

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	97.72	9.586	100.17	1,000
3radford & Bingley	11.625%	119.99	9.677	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	134.60	9.644	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	138.58	9.633	100.34	1,000
3ritannia	13.000%	133.13	9.749	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	126.99	9.524	100.75	1.000
irst National	11.750%	114.37	10.266	100.25	10,000
lailfax	8.750%	93.71	9.338	100.62	50,000
-lalifax	12,000%	125.43	9.366	100.28	50.000
lalifax	13.625%	144.83	9.381	100.00	50,000
eeds & Holbeck	13,375%	138.07	9.669	100.23	1,000
lewcastle	10.750%	114.96	9.338	100.32	1.000
lewcastle	12.625%	134.83	9.346	100.45	1,000
Vorthern Rock	12.625%	136.85	9.205	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	135.57	9.478	100.48	1,000
	Gross	Buy	ing i	SSUE	Minimum
LOATING RATE	coupon			price	purchase
Cheshire (28/03-28/09)	9.24766%	103.	.63 10	0.00	1,000
irst Nat(20/03-20/09)		100.	.63 10	0.00	1,000
<del></del>					

PIBS

SOUTHERN WATER BID ACTIVITY IN SECTOR

Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar

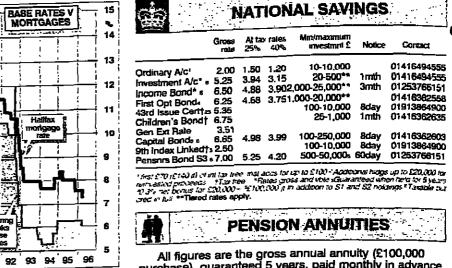
LARGER LENDERS % Lender Building Societies Bristol & West 0800 100117 Fixd to 31.1.97 £15k÷ 0.95 90 to £100k 90 0.99 Northern Rock 0800 591 500 to 1.5.97 6% disc-6 mths, 2% disc-18 mths Yorkshire 0800 378836 Banks Barclays 0800 494999 3.74 for 12 months 5.50% discount 0800 400999 for 12 months LARGER LOANS

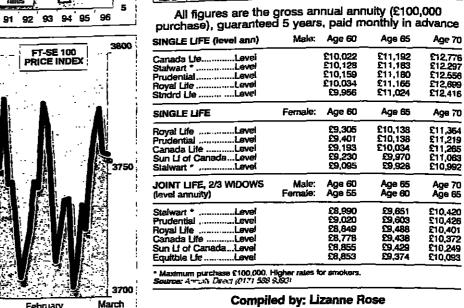
£102.59

Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs

0800 400999

<u> % </u>	LARGER LUANS				
Lender	Interest	Lozn size	Max	Nates	
Building Societies					
Bristol & West 0800 100117	0.70	£15k÷	90	Rate fixed to 30.11.96	
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	0.35	to £150k	70	7.14% discount for 9 months	
Scarborough 0800 590547 Banks	0.25	to £150k	70	Rate fixed for 1 year	
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	<u>\$2</u> 0-145k	95	6.75%dsc-6 mth, 3% dsc-6 mths	
Nat West	2.49	£15k÷	90	5.50% discount	





March

Lender	interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societi	ies			
Bristol & West 0800 100117	0.95	£15k+	95	6.54% disc 6 mth 2.50% disc 6 mth
Halifax 01422 333333	2.25r	no min/max	95	5% discount to 30.4.97
Brad & Bingley 01274 555555	3.44	£30k+ •	95	3.80% discount for 1 year
Banks				<u>-</u> -
Bnk of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.75% discount for 6 months
TSB Bank 0500 758000	3.75	£15k+	95	3.74% discount for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and linst-time buyers : Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.



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Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly incom	ne may be available.	Met Apr May Juli Jul Aug Se	ALCON MON DEC ON PRO INC.	
			<b>UNIT LINKED INSUR</b>	ANCE INVESTMENTS
Why Yel Bid Other •/- %	Bid Offer of %	Bul Offer -1- %	Bld Offer -/- %	Bid Offer %
AFGON LIFE ASSURANCE Legon House, Lagark Square, London	Uk Opportunity 214.20 231.90	Bristol & West (2) 1 103-20 • 0.10	HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Portway, Presion, Lanca	2nd Property Acc. 245.40 258.80 • 0.50 2nd Mingd 2 Acc. 195.40 205.70 • 0.20
4945 017  535,8900  alanced 525,50 5%,	North Amer Opp 211 30 223 50 • 1.10 Fur East Opp 222 70 235 60 • 1.20	Unit With Pits (5)   101.60 + 0.20 Secure (2)   101.20 + 0.10	PR2 2PR. 01772 840000 Managed   91 90 20  90 + 0.90	2nd Mingd 3 Acc
ik Equity us2y41 701.20 + 4 70 .	Gath Prop Set I Ini 00 Inv.40 + 0.80	Managed (2) 10) 90 0.50	do-Pens 243.00 255.70 + 150	3rd Deposit Acc 397.90 313.60 • 0.20
mperty 518,50 548,70 + 0,70	Gih Prop Ser 2   194,80 208,20 - 0,30   Flacil lil   2(360 226,00 + (40	Equity Mingd (2)   104-60 0-60 Adventurous (2) 1 (05-20 0.20	-do-Pena 25×00 250.50 • 2.70	2nd Amer Age 677.50 923.60 - 4.30
one) 2x2.70 278.00 + 0,20	Cash 165.50 175.10 • 0.10 6.49 Overseas 233.10 245.60 - 1.90	Br[stol & West (2) 1 (01.50 + 0.20	International   16 <sup>4</sup> -50   178-40 + 12-40   166-70   168-70 + 12-40   168-70 + 12-40   168-70   168-	Znd inti Mny Acc 256.40 290.70 • 0.10 2nd index acc 215.60 226.90 • 1.50
BBEY LIFE	Furmerly LAS Managed Fund 400.10 421.20 + 2.40	EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3, 0(7) 629 (())	Deposis 145.80 153.40 • 0.10 -do-Pens 175.40 184.60 • 0.20	2nd Far East Acc 481.20 536.50 - 290 2nd Global Acc 198.20 338.60 + 0.20
Memberst Read, Bournemouth 18 SAL	UTK Equity 671.30 706.70 + 6.80	Eagle/Mid Dis 335.10 347.20 • 3.40 2.64	HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION	2nd Euro Acc   \$2.00   \$2.30 • 1.50
102 292373	Money Murket 264 DO 277 90 + 0 10		3 Finsbory Avenue, London EC2M 2PA	Ind Int Cr Bd Act 170.80 180.10 - R.10
Hodish 54   187.40   197.30 + 0.40 Hodi 54   152.00   141.00 + 1.70	Fixed Interest 315.90 332.50 + 260 Japon 380.00 376.90 - 6.30	FRIENDS PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SPI 36H	0171 638 5151 UK Equity Fd 402.00 427.70 + 4.20	2nd Cap Gth Act 140.70 148.20 + 0.10
emational \$4   215 i0   227.50   - 0.50 steried Gib \$4   120,10   126.50   - 0.20	North America 195.70 206.00 - 0.90	04722 443366 Managed 344A0 357.90 • 2.30	North America +++ 90 ++++0 - 950	LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BSI 6EA
an Pacific 218 (U 229,5) + 0,20	European 125,30 34240 - 0,50	UK Equity 47( In 495,90 + 4,30	Global Managed 540.90 575.40 • 2.70	01 7 9279 79
pupeon 54 199,80 209,80 - 0,40 . pp Fd Net 4 374,60 394,40	FarE451 (en.30 (es.80 - n.90	Newardship 415.60 437.50 • 6.80 Overseas Equity 330.80 344.30 • 1.30	Deposit Fund	Equity   997 jii 670   Fixed Interest : 453.40 5 jib
ulty ver4 254.40 267.80 - 2.30 . un ser4 744.70 78610 - 3.00 .	CANADA LIFE 20 High Street Powers Bar. Herts ENb 5BA	North American 186,70 (96,80 + 3,40 Pacific Basin (4),70 (91,30 - 0,70	European Fund 310.80 330.70 + 1.50   Placel Interest = 67.50 71.80 + 6.10	Property! 433.30 • 0.50 Deposit 1 308.40 • 0.30
nv Ser 4 344,40 342,60 + 0,20	0(707 S1L22	European 27250 267.00 • 130		Mixed: 663.50 390
oney Set 4 344 362.20 + 0.20	Equity Growth 1 277,80	Property 181.30 190.90 + 0.20 Fixed interest 254.80 258.30 + 0.90	HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addisonabe Ruad, Croydon	Indexed Stock 1 222.50 1.00 International: 3,97 to 1.50
ierican Ser 4 - 615,30 - 647,70 - 10,30 gh ing Ser 4 - 775,60 - 816,50 - 2,50	Property 249.40 252.60 + 0.10 GBr # Fxd fmi 258.60 272.30 + 2.00	Index Linked 176-80 186-20 + 1-30 Cash 210-90 222-00 + 0.20	0)8) 686 4395 Security Fund 623.80 660.20 • 7.50	Equity A 2 231.00 1.50 Fixed int A 2 200.90 2.20
esmi ini Sar 4 222.97 234.30 • (50	Equity 434,70 457.80 • 5,20	FP Life Assurance es NM	British Fund 6-36-20 663-20 + 2-40	Property A1 140.20 + 0.20
on Ser 4 356,80 375,60 - 6,80 .	Cash 225,60 237,50 - 0.10 CLife Euro Mgd 440,80 464,10 + 1,20	Fixed Interest 578.70 609.10 + 5.10 Managed 791.60 ×22.70 +10.00	International 0.830 675.50 + 1.00	Deposit A.T   181.00 + 0.20   Mixed A.1   217.70 1.20
BANY LIFE burkes Laur. Posters Bur ENGIAI	Cilife Intl Fd 407.30 428.80 = 0,30 Managed Fond 8[4] 0 854.90 = 0,60	Deprisit 356.40 377.70 • 0.30 Property 476.10 501.10 • 0.60	Capital Fund Se5.10 548.00 + 2.20 Income Fund 747.60 844.10 + 1.50	Index Stock A1 174 00 0.80 International A1 210.30 1.00
07 423H	Property Fund 51870 546/10 - 0.60 .	American 525.60 553.30 + 9.10	Property Series A 47140 498,90 4.50	Equity P1 x26.70 5.40
ifty Fd Acc   1792,80 (1997,10 → 11,90 ropeon Fd Acc   429,90   450,50   - 0,10	Equity Fund 1082.50 1179.50 + 2.30 Gill Edged Fd 661.70 646.50 + 3.20	Australian 6(0:00 64270 - 7,70 . European 00000 69470 + 2,90	Property Units 751.30 819.40 Financial Fund 711.70 753.20 - 2.80	Fixed Ini P1 409.50 7.10 Property P1 337.80 0.20
ed int Acc \$43 40 57.250 - 19,00 I Money Acc 350,60 3-4.20 • 0,20	Deposit Fund 351,30 364,80 im-estment Fd 462,20 495,30 - 0,40	Income Acc	Managed Ser A 623.70 660.00 + 1.30 Managed Units 1(21.50 1)80.60 + 2.70	Deposit P1 388.40 + 0.40 Stjand P1 617.60 3.70
Managed Acc 693.30 729.60 - 2.50 .	international 62640 65940 - 270	International 357.10 375.90 • 1.70	High Yield Fund 722-90 764.90 + 1.70	Index Stock Pt 255 60 (40
an Fund 361.80 275.50 - 3.70	CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE	lapan Smalkrt 454 00 477.80 - 3.97 Singspore 8 Mai 451,60 475,30 - 0.10	Money Series A 201.50 321.20 + (1.20 Money Units 404.20 425.50 + 0.30	International Pt 4/1.90 2.20 .
merican Acc 19030 41630 + 5,00 p Ful Acc 456,50 484,50 + 0.40	Seniry House, 500 Aschury Blvd. Milion Keynes MK9 2NU, 01908 600101	Smaller Cos 471.30 496 10 - 5,40 Tologo Fund 659.60 694.30 -14,00	Equity Fund 720.70 762.70 • 3.00 Fixed Inveres: 388.80 411 90 • 8.00	LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE
Upleizs Acc II 64 nO 1225240 + 4 10	Property Filtral 166 (8) 175 (0)	Uk Equity +64,70 +93,30 +14,30	Indexed Secs (44) (0 205.4) - (.10	Windade Park, Exeter EXS IDS, 01392 283456
LIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE	Manuscol Fund 718 10 755.40 + 5.40 Equity Fund 448.40 440.51 + 5.70	CCM Yangai Mg 860.00 405.20 + 9,20 .	European Fund 97.200 422.80 + 3.40 Natural Res 159.30 374.20 - 1.70	inv Trust Cap : 630.80 • 2.60 -do-Acc : 1099-20 • 5.50
indon SN1 IEL 93 514514	CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY	GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD Affast Gate, 14th Fir, 125 London Wall, Lond	Far East Fund 711 90 753.40 - 5.70 Smaller Cos 574 93 613.70 + 6.30	Property Cap 1 142-50 + 0.10
Ini Dep Acc 742,00 412,70 + 0,30 dp Acc 1634,50 1720,60 - 540	INVESTMENTS	ECZY 5AS. 0171 710 4567	Special Sfts 567 70 600.80 + 480	Fed Interest Cap 1 197.90 • 2.40
perty Acc 61270 645.00 + 040	Narrow Plain. Brestol BS2 QJH. 0117 9290566 Assurance Funds	GT Plan Far East 341.20 359.20 - 4.60 GT Plan Wwide 545.90 574.70 - 1.00	Man Currency 281.50 397.90 Japanese Tech 319.90 338.50 -11.00	-do-Acc1 338.00 • 4.40 Equity Cap ( 350.60 • 3.80
EAST ACC 347_90 3u5 60 - 1 60	Sapphire Mixed 324,50 346,90 4 0.50 Ruby (98,30 204,80 4 0.31	·	US smaller Cos 375.10 397.00 = 7.10 Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Lid	-da-Acct 608.00 + 7.00 Internal Cap : 251.30 0.80
ACC 1347.90 1313-01 - 3,70 FW35 ACC 1101.40 1159-40 - 3,30	Emerald (53,20 tot 30 - 0.50 Equity 380,00 401.00 - 1.00	GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Euses	Preposit 2:043 274.70 + 0.20 Financial Ser I 57.90 61.70 - 0.10	-do-Act 411.30 1.00
Educid Acc 523,40 551,50 + 0.30	Property 233.00 245.60 - 0.10	CM20 2EW. 01279 626262	Fired interest 19110 to 80	-du-Act 275.20 • ().20 7.20
per Man Acc 435 #J 458 #J + 5 9D	Gill & Floed int 218.50 230,10 - 0,10 Indexed Sec. 176.50 186.30 - 150 .	Portfolio Acc 773,40 773 43 • 2,70	Geld 101.00 107 to - 440 Managed 696.80 731.60 - 300	Flexible Cap : 364.10 • 1.50 do-Acc : 635.10 • 3.20
er Prop Acc 117,50 123 70 + 0,20 . Lybutlen Bends 24.4° 25 70	Cash   197,30 207 70 + 0,20   Nth American   213,01 308,50 + 2,71	UK Equity 460.60 #91.20 - 4.20	Mingl Growth 22480 236.70 - 2.30 Mingl Opp 237 50 250.10 - 2.70	Moneymaker Ed 1 492.40 4.10 Capital Growth 1 (90.19) 19.40
	Par E241 3+0.70 379.30 - 2.40	Managed 347,00 365,30 • 1,30	Property 330.70 148.20	
A EQUITY & LAW LIFE SURANCE	Special 5 is 414.90 436.70 + 210		Residential Prop 105.50 111.10 TSB American 273.60 288.30 • 6.10	M. & G. Victoria Road, Chelmaford, Essex CM11FB
ersham Road, High Wycombe. Bucks 14 403463	Initinome 337,60 35540 • 040 .  American Inc 243,60 250,50 • 340	GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rosgier St. York YOUTHR, 01904 628982	TSB firth Gwth 1007-50 1060.70 • 280 TSB European 316.60 333.30 • 1.30	81245 264264 Amer Bond Acc 544.40 575 90 +1320
enve Setro 17120 180200 ced Setro 818.10 #61.10 - 1,60	European 384.20 404.90 - 0≪0 . Japanese (42.20 149.90 - 1,30	Managed 230.60 251.10 • 0.40 Unitised Profit 149.30 157.20 • 0.20	TSB intrame 4,37,50 460,60 + 0,50	Amer Rec Bond 547.50 617.40 + 9.60
normality Serve 187-20 (97-20) + 0-40 .	SEASID 413.50 434.90 - 0.30	UK Equity 333.20 350.70 - 2.50	TSR (nt) Inc. 173.80 140.90 - 0.80	Am Smir Cos Bd 283 10 247 40 + 0.20 . Australesia Bd 271.80 285 50 - 300 .
Equities Ser 6 1255,00 1215 74 - 4.50	-tio-spec (78.30 (97 os + 10.20	Fixed Int 207.20 218.00	TSB Pacific 45(.00 474.00 - 1.30 TSB Prem inc 272.30 284.50 - 1.30	Commodity Rand 404-00 424-90 - 0.30 Deposis Bond Act 379-10 398-10 - 0.10
ther Inc. 9er 6 (2057) 1271,20 + 4,20 . Th Amort Ser 6 602,20 633,80 +14,60	Figuritie kertrement Plant Funds Mixed 384.30 474.60 • 1.10	Cash Deposit (82.30 191.80 + 0.10		Equity Booki Acc. 1698.10 1783.10 + Just
E34 Set 6 616.39 648.80 - 5.30 cope Set 6 457.50 481.50 + 2.00 .	Equity 464.50 493.00 - 2.50 .	Interputional 194,60 204,70 - 0.40	IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE	Extra YM Bri Act 846_30 898,70 + 1,80
מסגייה מהודט יידאלוו	Glit & Fixed Int 278 70 293.40 • 0.10	American 209.10 220.00 + 3.20 Japan 236.30 249.60 - 3.60	irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Afbans, Herns ALI 5TF, 01727 48181	Far gast Bd Act. 342-90 360,20 + 3.80 Glit Bund Act. 467,70 491,50 - 1.00
esty ver 6 570,40 609,80 + 0.40	Index Linked 187.40 197.30 • 1.50 Cash 257.70 281.40 • 0.30	Supern Smile Cos 262.00 254.00 - 3.00 . Bumpern 210.40 221.40 - 140	Ginbal Managed 1:54.20 688.00 - 610 . Ginbal Property 315.20 371.80	Gold Bond Acc 19950 24530 - 9.40 High Yield Bond 26493 267.401 + 1.40
-{colod Sec Sa (40.30 300 30 + (40 ed Dep Sec 6 312.30 324.10 + 0.30	Nih American 771,10 90,70 - 4,91 . For E.P. Acc 340,80 354,60 - 710	Partic Fund 31720 333.60 - 0.63 Com Life 144.40 [5].90 + 140	Global Fract Int 540,80 574,70 - 5,90 Global Equity 712,30 740,00 - 740	index-Lak Cr 86 218.20 229.20 + 1,40 International Bd 881.60 925.70 + 7 ID
RCLAYS LIFE	International Acc. 352.50 171.10 - 0.20 . Special Sits 624.30 +57.20 - 1.50	Formerly Provident Mutual	Global Cash 234 70 236 50 • 0,10	Japan Bond Act 247.40 259.60 - 2.10
Romford Road, London E793B	European Flex 544,30 578.30 - 2,00	Managed initial 352.60 370.60 • 1.60	<del></del>	Japan Sm Cos Ac 235.10 246.90 - 2.90 Managed Bonds 998.60 (048.70 + 5.70
534 5544 lly Acc	COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP	Equity Ord 841,30 865.60 • 5.80 Equity Intil 544.60 573,30 • 3.50	LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnepod, Gloucester GL47RZ	Prop Bond Acc 374.90 393.70 - 2,00 Rec Bond Acc 879.00 923.00 - 2,80
initial 625.70 658.70 + 500 . Edged Acc. 414.70 43560 + 300 .	Colonial Matrial House, Chatham Markime, Kent ME4 67Y, 01634 898 000	1-United Gilt Ord 210,10 221,20 • 1,50 1-United Gilt Init 142,00 149,50 • 1,00	01452 57137] Property States S2800 - 1.00	
initial 244.50 279.50 - 1 90 mallonal Act 456 [0 480.20 - 0.10	(Units) Key 1 235.56	Osean Equity Ond 438,00 461,00 - 0.10 Osean Equity Infr 284,00 288,90 - 0.40	Managed 47310 497.81 - 0.25 American 527.40 555.10 • 5.10	MGM ASSURANCE MGM House Heese Road, Worthing BNII 2DY, 81903-204631
វត្តម៉ង់ 319.00 204.30 - ១ ស្	-du-Cash 21145 2236) • 0.14	Property Ord	UK Equity Fd \$17.40 \$45.10 • 1,00	UK Equity 255,30 354,40 + 2.50
naged 4cc 544.50 b31.10 + 3.00 Initial 381.20 401.30 + 190	do Equity 619 652.26 + 0.20	Property Init 180.90 190.30 • 0.10 Fixed int Ord 322.90 318.40 • 0.10 .	Japan 215,90 23,10 - 2,10 Index-Usd 193,00 233,10 • 1,40	UK Equity Acc 376,40 396,30 44 (d) Special Sits 10470 110,50 4 130
iry Act 305.80 321.90 = 0.30 . herl) Act 307.50 323.70 = 0.20	-tio-Managed 442.99 #6.31 - U.R." . -tio-Property 295.22 31-176 - 0.49	Fixed int Int 195.40 ZDs. 10 - 0.20   Deposit Ord 217.00 228.40 + 0.10	High Tield 971.50 1022 + 7.00 Vioney 422.40 445.10 + 0.10	Special Sits Acc 154.50 162.70 • 2.10
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raila Acc 245,40 258,40 - 5,50 .	-du-Equity Cap 110.27 117.13 - 310	GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE	Perpetual Active 377.00 Pe.80 • 2.00	Pacific Basin 380,10 400,20 - 4,10 Pacific Basin Acc 560 40 589,90 - 5,70
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un Gent Ace 306.40 322.60 - 8.90 ome Ace 598.50 630.00 - u.00	-th-Fixed inv 612 to 665.97 • 0.64 -to-index Cap 204.64 215 th - 1.57	Ass Prop Bds 830.80 865.50 Managed Initial 524.80 552.50 • 3.70	European 175.00 (84.00 - 0.00	Property 174.40 (78.49) + 0.10
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ACK HORSE LIFE	COMMERCIAL UNION	Fired (in Initial 494.20 - 1.6	2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN518E 01273.824000	Managed Acc 301.40 412.00 + 2.40
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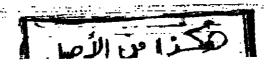
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- 250 - 250 - 230		Giji Plos Managed	216.60 347.00	228.10 365.30	• 130	ı
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+ D, IG		Japan Jugan Smile Cos	209.10 236.30 342.00	248.60 254.60	- 1,60 · · ·	
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	VAIT 438 5151 UK Equity Fd North America Far East Fund Global Managed Deposit Fund Prince Residential	40200 464 90	421.70 GA 144	• 420 • 950 • 550 • 270 • 0.10 • 1.50	l ros
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	British Fund International Dollar Fund	626.30	660.20 663.20 675.50 547.60	• 7.60 • 2.40 • 3.00	Propo Depo Mixe
	International Dollar Fund Capital Fund Capital Fund Income Fund Property Series A Property Units Financial Fund Managed Units High Tield Fund Money Series A Money Units Equity Fund Phed Imeren Indexed Sec. European Fund Natural Res. Pirad Smaller Cost Special Sft Spanier Cost Fornace Technology Inaperts Cost Spanier	517.40 565.10	548.00	-10.30 - 2.20	Inde
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	Financial Fund Managed Ser A	7[1.70 623.70	753.20 663.00	- 280 • 1-30	Prop Depo
'	Managed Units High Yield Fund	1121.50 722.60	764.90	+ 1.70	Miso
i	Money Series A Money Units	(D) (S) (D) (2)	321.20 425.50	• 0.30	Inter
	Equity Fund Fixed Inveres	720.70 368.60	762.70 411.50	- 8.00	LON ASSI Wigs
i	European Fund	97.200 164.70	422.80 179.70	1.90	inv T
ı	Far East Fund Smaller Cos	71190	753.40 613.70	- 1.00 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.10	Prope vin- A
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-	Japanese Tech US Smaller Cos	319.90 375.10	338,50 397,00	-11.00 - 7.10	do- A Equit
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	Financial Ser I Fixed Interest Gold	390.30	368.80	- 010	Gid I
4	Managed Magai Growth	696-80 224-80	733.60	- 300	do- A
١	Mayd Opp Property	237 50 330 70	250.10 148.20	- 2.70	Capit
İ	Residential Prop TSB American	105.50 27.Us0	288.30	• • 10	M A Vide
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١	Japan Index-List High Yield	193,00 971,50 422,40	1022	- 1.40	speck speck speck
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Į	Gjir Edged	456 70	480.70	- I.AG	Fixed Fixed Proper
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Ì	-du- ACC Equity Initial -dr- ACC	307.10 348.00	787.40 1407.30	• 0.50 • 1.90 • 0.50 • 1.30 • 1.90 • 1.40	Proper UN Eq Gilli E
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Am Smir Cos Bd Australesia Bd Commodity Band Deposia Band Act	404.60	124.9D	- 300	[	Op Ma Op De Inc Gu
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European Bd Acc Extra YM Bd Acc	467.80 846_30	491.30 898.70 360.20 491.50 345.30	• 3.80 • 3.80	:::	Giit British
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index-Lak C+ B6 International Bd	218-20 88 .00	229.30 925.70	• 1,40 • 7  D • 2  D	:::	Japan Uk Sm
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Special Sits Acc North American N American Acc Pacific Basin	376,40 104 71 154,50 221,40 329,40	368,90 396,30 110,30 162,70 235,30 346,80 400,20	. UIO .	- (	United Cilk Fu
	380, I.O 560 4D	400,20 589,40	- 4.1U .	::	SAVE
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NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Fands	SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 (YE	European 200.30 216.40 + 1.90 Phoenia Assurance
PO Box 140. Norwich NR3 IPP 01603 622200	0137 225 2261 Property 225 40 237 40 • 0.30	Wealth Assured 785.60 (27.00 - 4.70 Eber Phoenix Eq. 516.30 550.00
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2 Barries Way, Hook, Hants RGZ7 9XA 01256 748888	Managed 377_20 344_50 - 2_30 Wordskide 140.60 148_10 + 0.60	Investment (A): 401.00
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Manageri Acc 217 10 256.50 • 0.20 Property Acc 216.50 230.40 • 0.30	SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G25HN	Achuarial Ed 1 686.ed + 3.30 Gill-Edged Ed 1 414.30 + 0.80
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Paralle Ace (69.30 178.60 - 0.70 European Ace (15.30 227.20 - 1.90	Opportunity Fd 2x8.50 282.70 + 0.00  Cash Fond 192.50 + 0.20	
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PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peierberough	Index-Linked Fo 188.80 198.80 - 1.40 International Fd 325.30 342.50 - 1.10	Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2D7 Dealing: 01256 541414
PE2 6FY, 01733 470 470 Int Prop Day 145.00 152.70 - 0.40	North American 29a00 311.00 + 4.00 Property Fund 124.20 (36.10	Growth Acc 1 (705.10 +13.10 Managed Acc 1 955.00 1.30
Prop Act (Gross) 335-20 342-40 - 1.00 1n: Equity   1440-00 1473-70 - 16-00	UK Equity 285,00 301,00 • 1.60 UK Smaller 242,10 307,50 • 5,00	Equity Account 2 1349.50 1.00
Inv Managed 972.90 (024.30 + 7.00 Ret Managed 1109.50 1107.90 + 9.10	(	Equity Fund Acc 603.20 634 93 - U.SO .
For Prostident Mutual see General Accident	SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	Fland Int Fd Acr 328.80 340.20 - 270
PRUDENTIAL	6 St Andrews Square. Ediaburgh EH2 ZYA	Inda-Lnk Ses Ac 213-30 224-60 - 280
Holbern Bars, Lendon ECIN 2NH 0171 405 9222	Mixed 311.50 328.00 + 1.60 Equity 331.80 351.40 + 3.40	Pers Pens Acct 1 2191.10 +24.70 Pens Mogd Acct 1018.40 1072.00 +12.01
Managed 430.10 416.80 + 5.40	International   305.80   322.00   1.70     Property   235.60   248.10   0.20	Pens Guarantee 278.30 293.00 + 0.50 Pens Equity 395.60 416.40 + 5.60
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS	Fixed interest 237.70 250.40 0.00 index Linked 189.70 199.80 - 1.90	Pens Property 312.40 328.40 - 0.10
I Stephen Street, London WIP 2AP 0371 548 3278	Cash 195 40 205,40 + 0 10 Formerly Prolific	Pens Ind 299-10 304-30 + 2-50 Pens Money 252-90 266-20 + 0.30
Managed Fund 928.00 976.90 + 2.30 Expiry Fund 1793.60 1888 10 + 6.50	Rei Gwih Mingd 430,60 490,00 + 9,60 Cash Fund 355,40 374 co + 0,30	Pens Indo-Lake 206.80 217.70 + 0.70
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Strategic Fund 195.80 206.20 • 0 90	Technology 1031.70 1097.60 -14.60	Fixed intract 430.00 453.30 - 5.60
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Busheen Park, Peterborough PE16GG, 01733 300000	Gift Fund 518.80 552(1) - 2(0) European (74.70 1859a) - 0.10	Amer Equity Acc 491.10 517.00 * 8.90 . Japan Acc 297.90 313.60 - 7.40
Mulitinow (45) 1 814-#0	Adventurous Mg 271.00 285.30 • 0.80	Pacific Act 421.60 463.80 - 2-0 Par Eastern Act 917.90 965.80 - 2-70
-do-Acc 448.90 525.00 +24.20 Op 270p 503.60 530.10	Equity Inc Dist 130.50 137.60 + 0.80 4.27 Managed Dist 119.76 126.20 + 0.60 4.81	International Acc 688.40 724.70 + 0.80 Distribution Fund 200.90 306.30 - 0.60 5.88
Op Equity £11.55 £12.16 • 7.90 On High Yield • 34.70 • 68.10 • 3.70	1110 1110 1110	European 218.30 229.80 - 1.60 Delind Disc 185.40 195.20 - 1.10
Op Deposit 412:00 434.30	SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902. Edinburgh EHI65BU	Detrifu Disk lass do 143777 - 1116 1
Inc Gth 347.10 365.30 + 0.40 . Japan Smir 244.20 257.00 - 0.20	inv Pol 1 1135.40 1135.90 • 7.20	TSB LIFE LTD Charless Place, Audover, Hants, SP16 IRE
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Gold Share 97.80 102.90 - 4.70	Equity Fund 615 91 648.40 - 2.30 Property Fund 250.61 264.10 - 0.30	Pland Interest Fd (242.60 235.50 = 0.50 Money Pund (210.70 221.90 = 0.20
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High Income 329.20 346.50 • 0.60 Income 509.30 536.00 - 0.70 Inpat 430.60 453.20 - 3.30 UK Smir Cos 457.60 453.20 • 6.00	Equity Fam. 615-91 644.60 - 2.00   Property Fund 200.81 264.10 - 0.31   Instrumental Conference of 1975-50 (10) 10 - 4.00   Indicated Stock Fd 2077.70 218.70 + 1.30   Indicated Stock Fd 2077.70   Fland Interest Fd   242.00   255.50   2.050	
High Income 324.20 346.50 • 0.00 · 1.	Equily Fund 615 91 644.60 2.20 Property Fund 250.47 264.10 0.30 International Rd 579.50 610 10 - 4.60 Parel International Rd 279.50 610 10 - 4.60 Parel Internet Fd 427.00 422.10 490 Indexed Stock Fd 207.70 218.70 - 1.70 Cash Fund 219.90 252.60 - 0.20	Fixed Interest Fd 262.00 225.50 • 0.50 Money Pund 21,00 221.90 • 0.20 Equity Fund 420.40 • 449.40 • 1.50 WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House. Telfard. Shrepskire 01952 20205
High Income 13/4.20 34/6.50 • 0.60 Informe 59/6.3 53/6.00 • 10,70 Input 43/6.0 45/1.20 • 3.30 UK Smir Cos 43/6.0 45/1.20 • 6.00 Mingd Growth 53/6.0 557.40 • 0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place. Liversed 14/8 34/5	Equily Fund 615 on 644.60 2.20 Property Fund 29.50 25.10 0.30 International Ed 575.50 610 to -4.50 Placed interest Fd 427.00 422.10 450 Indexed Succl. Fd 267.70 218 70 -1.70 Cash Fund 29.90 252.60 -0.20 SKANDIA LIFE Standia House, Pertiand Toward	Pixed Interest Fd   X21.00   225.50   0.50     Money Pind   20.70   221.90   0.20     Equity Fund   420.40   449.40   1.50     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telfard   Shrepshire   0192 2029   Managed Bond   801.60   844.70   6.70     Money Fund   301.40   344.70   6.20     Equity Fund   720.40   739.30   4.50
High Income 13/20 30-50 0.00 Informs 99/30 550:00 0.70 Input 430:00 453:20 -3.30 UK SMIT Cos 13/60 453:20 -0.30 Mand Growth 520:00 537:20 -0.40  ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Half Place Liverpool 149:3815 0197 229 3000 Royal Shield Fd 113.19 113:34 -8.70 Royal Life Unit University	Equily Fund 615 on 644.60 - 2.30 Property Fund 20.37 264.10 - 0.40 Intermittonal Ed 575.50 610 to - 4.00 Placed Interest Fd 467.00 422.10 - 4.00 Indexed Succi Fd 207.70 218 70 - 1.70 Cash Fund 209 og 252.60 - 0.20  SKANDIA LIFE Standia House, Portland Terrace, Southeampton 809 783.	Fixed Interest Fd   262.00   225.50   0.50     Money Pund   20,70   221.90   0.20     Equity Fund   420.40   449.40   1.50     WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House. Telfand. Shrepshire 0/952 252529 Managed Bond   801.60   844.70   6.70     Equity Fund   220.40   759.30   2.50     Equity Fund   720.40   759.30   2.50     Fixed Interest   294.60   315.30   2.10     Froperty Fund   51.90   376.60
High Income 13/420 346.50 - 0.00 Internate 59/43 350.00 - 0.70 Ingura 43/40 451.20 - 3.30 UK Smilr Cas 437/60 457.20 - 6.00 Mingid Growth 52/940 557.40 - 0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place Liverpool 14/9 3H/5 015/ 279 3000 Royal Shield 64 11,1/4 11).34 - 8.70 Royal Life Unit Linked Managed Fund 441.70 444.90 - 3.30	Equily Fund 615 on 644.60 - 2.30 Property Fund 20.87 264.10 - 0.40 Instrumitional Ed 575.50 610 to - 4.00 Placed interest Fd 447.00 422.16 - 4.00 Indeted Suca Fd 207.70 218.70 + 1.70 Cash Fund 20.90 252.60 - 0.20 SKANDIA LIFE Standia House, Pertiand Terrace, Southenapton 8009.783. 10708.37441. Managed Acc 483.00 461.371 + 44.00 Equily Acc 535.30 503.40 + 7.10	Fixed Interest Fd 262.00 225.50 - 0.50 Money Pland 210,70 221,90 - 0.30 Equity Fund 420.40 449.40 - 1.50  WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telfard, Shrepshire 01952 280278 Managed Bond 313.40 341.70 - 6.70 Morrey Fund 313.40 351.50 0.20 Edge United: 294.00 155.30 - 2.10 Froperty Fund 519.00 370.40 Graham Frankingun Armetkan 4 Graf 375.10 24.00 - 3.50
High Income 19/3.0 30-5.0 0.60 income 99/3.0 50-0.0 0.70 income 99/3.0 50-0.0 0.70 income 99/3.0 50-0.0 0.70 income 99/3.0 50-0.0 0.70 income 99/3.0 40/3.0	Equily Fund 615 on 684,80 2.30 Property Fund 20,80 264,80 0.40 International Rd 574.50 4010 0 42.0 Indirect Stock Fd 207,70 218 70 4.70 Cash Fund 29 90 252.60 0.20  SKANDIA LIFE Standia House, Pertiand Terrace, Southampion SOP 783, UT03 33411 Managed Acc 438.30 461,31 4.40	Fixed Interest Fd   X62.00   225.50   0.50     Money Pund   20,70   221,90   0.20     Equity Fund   420,40   449,40   1.50     WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telfard, Shrepshire 01952 225225 Managed Bond   801,60   447,70   6.70     Managed Bond   311,40   351,50   0.20     Equity Fund   720,40   750,50   0.25     Flora Interest   70,40   750,00   2.50     Grabbum Framilington   70,40   70,40     Matherican & Grif   705,10   743,00   1.60     Informational Citi   714,40   752,80   2.30
High Income 13/4.20 34-5.00 - 0.60 income 59/4.30 35-0.00 - 0.70 income 59/4.30 35-0.00 - 0.70 income 59/4.40 451.20 - 3.30 income 59/4.40 451.20 - 6.20 income 59/4.40 451.20 - 6.20 income 59/4.40 - 0.40 income 59/4.40 income 59/4.	Equily Fund 615 on 648,40 2.30 Property Fund 20,470 264,10 0.40 International Rd 579.50 610 10 - 420 International Rd 579.50 610 10 - 420 Indexed Succi. Fd 207.70 218 70 - 1.70 Cash Fund 29.90 252.60 - 0.20  SKANDIA LIFE Standia House, Pertland Terrace, Southenpton NO9 7B3 U703 33-411 Managed Acc 488.50 661,31 440 Equily Acc 515.00 260,40 7.10 International Acc 750.00 263,70 - 7.60 Property 231.80 241,70 - 0.30	Fixed Interest Fd 242.00 255.50 - 0.50 Money Pland 20,20 221,90 - 0.20 Equity Fund 420.40 449.00 - 1.00  WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House. Telfand. Shreepshire 0/92 28229 Managed Bond 513.00 344.70 - 6.70 Morrey Fund 220.00 383.50 - 0.20 Fixed Interest 294.00 383.50 - 2.50 Fixed Interest 294.00 383.50 - 2.10 Froperty Fund 520.00 370.00 - 1.00 Gresbam Franchington American & Grint 705.10 243.00 - 3.00 Informational Ctb 714.00 752.00 - 2.30 Capital Fund 251.00 770.70 - 4100 Recovery Fund 64.00 752.00 - 2.30 Ecovery Fund 65.00 701.00 - 0.00
High Income 139-30 30-30 - 0.00 income 59-30 30-30 - 0.70 income 59-30 453.20 - 3.30 income 59-30 453.20 - 3.30 income 59-30 557.40 - 0.40 income 59-30 57.40 in	Equily Fund 615 of 644.00 2.30  Property Fund 20.47 264.10 0.10  International Rd 575.50 101 10 - 4.00  International Rd 575.50 101 10 - 4.00  International Rd 575.50 422.10 - 4.00  Indexed Succk Fd 207.70 218 70 - 1.70  Cash Fund 219 90 252.60 - 0.20  SKANDIA LIFE  Standia House, Pertiand Terrace, Southampton NO97B3  10708 374-11  Managed Acc 48-30 561.31 44.0  Equity Acc 555.80 563.40 47.10  International Acc 750.00 395.70 - 7.60  Property 211.40 21.70 - 0.30  STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO  3 General Standard Equity Acc 57	Fixed Interest Fd   262.00   255.50   0.50     Money Pland   210.70   221.90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House, Telfard, Shreepshire   0.952 25729     Managed Bond   801.00   844.70   6.70     Morrey Fund   513.40   351.50   0.20     Equily Fund   254.00   350.00   2.10     Froger's Fund   519.00   370.40     Gresham Framingum   401.70   400     American & Gord   655.70   901.70   400     Luciona Forma   571.00   752.00   2.30     Equil Fund   271.40   752.00   2.30     Econory Fund   659.70   901.70   400     Laginal Fund   271.40   752.00   2.30     Laginal & General   207.40   281.80   6.30     Formerly Albana   207.40   281.80   6.30
High Income 13/420 3-0-50 0.00 1.70 1.000	Equily Fund 615 91 0 01.40 2.30 Property Fund 20.47 20.10 0.40 1 microsite Fd 470 410 10 - 4.00 1 microsite Fd 470 42.10 1 - 4.00 1 microsite Fd 470 42.10 1 - 4.00 1 microsite Fd 470 42.10 1 - 4.00 1 microsite Fd 470 42.10 1 - 4.00 1 microsite Fd 470 42.10 1 - 4.00 1 microsite Fd 470 470 1 microsite Fd 470	Fixed Interest Fd   362.00   255.50   0.50     Money Pland   21,00   221,90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telfard     Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard       Windsor House Telfard       Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House Telfard         Windsor House
High Income 13/420 30-50 0.00 1.70 1.000 1	Equily Fund 6   55 91   601,40   2.30   Property Fund 20,470   204,10   0.40   Instrumitional Fed 579.50   610   10   4.00   Instrumitional Fed 207,70   218 70   1.70   Instrumitional Life Standard Terrace. Southampton NO9 783. Instrumitional Acc 439.50   461,31   440   Instrumitional Acc 789.00   395,70   7.60   Instrumitional Acc 789.00   Instr	Fixed Interest Fd   362.00   255.50   0.50     Money Pland   20,70   221.90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telfand   Shrepshire   0.952 26529     Managed Bond   801.40   351.50   0.20     Morrey Fund   313.40   351.50   0.20     Find Interest   59.40   351.50   0.20     Find Interest   59.40   315.30   2.10     Finder Translington   American & Grid   705.10     Income   6 Grid   705.10   745.00   1.60     Income   6 Grid   751.40   752.40     Income   6 Grid   751.40   752.40     Income   6 Grid   751.40   752.40     Income   751.40     In
High Income 13/20 30-50 0.00 Introvine 59/30 45/20 0.00 Minyld Growth 52/30 557.40 0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE ROYAL LIFE INSUR	Equily Fund 6   515 ml 0   614.00   2.30   Property Fund 20.47   204.10   0.40   Instrumitional Fed 579.50   610   10   4.00   Instrumitional Fed 207.70   218 70   1.70   Instrumitional Life Standard Terrace. Southamagica NO9 783. Instrumitional Acc 439.50   461.31   440   Instrumitional Acc 789.00   395.70   7.40   Instrumitional Acc 789.00   395.40   0.20   Instrumitional Acc 789.00    Fixed Interest Fd   362.00   255.50   0.50     Money Pund   20,70   221.90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.70   241.90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.70   241.90   0.30     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telfard   Shrepshire   0.952 26729   Managaed Bond   301.00   361.50   0.25     Morrey Fund   313.00   351.50   0.25     Equily Fund   720.40   735.00   2.50     Froperty Fund   731.00   361.50     Greabash Framilington   361.50   370.40     Greabash Framilington   361.50   361.50     International CB   757.00   310.00   310.00     International CB   757.00   310.00     International CB   757.00     310.00     Interna	
High Income 13/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 45/20 -2.00 Mngd Growth 52/20 557.40 0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place Liverpool 18/20H5 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE Royal Shield 64 11/1/4 11/20 20/20 Royal Shield 64 11/1/4 11/20 20/20 Royal Life Unit Linked Managed Fund 41/70 57/1/20 84/0 Property Fund 41/20 57/20 20/20 Property Fund 41/20 58/20 20/20 International 53/20 52/20 20/0 United States 33/400 35/20 20/0 SAVE & PROSPER ROYAL BLAG GROW 20/20 10/20 20/20 ROYAL LIFE TO STATE ST	Equily Fund 6   55 ml est. 60   2.30   Property Fund 20.87   20.10   0.30   Instructional Fed   570 50   610   0.40   Indeted Succi Fed   207.70   218 70   1.70   Indeted Succi Fed   207.70   218 70   1.70   Instructional Acc   20.00   25.5 60   0.20   Instructional Acc   430.00   451.31   440   Instructional Acc   430.00   451.31   440   Instructional Acc   430.00   395.70   7.60   Instructional Acc   730.00   395.70   7.60   Instructional Acc   241.70   247.70   2.70   Instructional Acc   241.70   247.70   247.70   Instructional Acc   241.70   247.70   Instructional Acc   241.70   247.70   247.70   Instructional Acc   241.70   247.70   Instructional Acc   241.70   247.70   I	Fixed Interest Fd   242.00   255.50   0.50     Money Pund   21.70   221.90   0.20     Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.50     WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telferd, Shrepshire 0/952 25029 MARASped Bond   801.07   844.70   6.70     Morrey Fund   313.40   351.50   0.25     Equily Fund   720.40   739.30   2.50     Froperty Fund   731.40   351.50   2.25     Froperty Fund   731.40   370.40     Greabum Framilingon   231.00   1.60     Informational & Grid   705.10   703.00   1.60     Informational & Grid   705.10   707.70   4.50     Informational & Grid   705.10   707.70   4.50     Informational & Grid   705.10   21.80     Informational & 707.70   21.80     Informational & Grid   707.70   21.80
High Income 13/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 557.40 0.40 Mingld Growth 52/20 557.40 0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE  ROYAL LI	Equily Fund 6   55 m   614.00   2.30   7 mpreyry Fund 20.47   244.00   0.40   1 mirrailional Rd 579.50   610   10   4.00   1 mirrailional Rd 579.50   610   10   4.00   1 mirrailional Rd 579.50   610   10   4.00   1 mirrailional Rd 207.70   214.70   1.70	Fixed Interest Fd   342.40   235.50   0.50     Money Pland   21,00   221,90   0.30     Equity Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House, Telfard     Windsor House, Telfard       Windsor House, Telfard       Windsor House, Telfard       Windsor House, Telfard       Windsor House, Telfard       Windsor House, Telfard       Windsor House         Windsor House
High Income 13/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-50 0.00 Internal 59/20 45/20 -3.30 Internal 59/20 55/20 0.00 Internal 59/20	Equily Fund   615 m   641.00   2.30   7 mproperly Fund   29.87   29.10   0.40   1 mirralitional Feb   79.50   610   10   4.00   1 mirralitional Feb   79.50   620	Fixed Interest Fd   342.00   225.50   0.50     Money Pland   21.70   227.90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telleral     Windsor House Telleral       Windsor House Telleral       Windsor House Telleral       Windsor House Telleral       Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral         Windsor House Telleral             Windsor House Telleral             Windsor House Telleral             Windsor House Telleral
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High Income 13/20 30-30-0 0.00 income 59/20 30-30-10 0.70 lapan 430-40 451.20 -3.30 UK Smill Cos 437/60 451.20 -3.30 UK Smill Cos 437/60 451.20 -6.00 Mng/d Growth 52/90 557.40 -0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place Liverpool Let 3HS 0H3 ZW 3000 12 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	Equily Fund 6   515 ml 0   614.00   2.30   7   7   7   7   7   7   7   7   7	Fixed Interest Fd   X42.00   225.50   0.30     Money Pund   21,00   221,90   0.30     Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80     WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telleral     Windsor House Telleral       Windsor Hou
High Income 13/20 30-30-0 0.00 Internal 59/20 30-30-0 0.70 Ingura 40:40 451.20 -3.30 UN Smilt Cas 477-60 451.20 -3.30 UN Smilt Cas 477-60 451.20 -6.00 Mingld Growth 52/20 557.40 0.40 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place Liverpool 13/2415 ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE Royal Shield 64 11/1.71 11/1.24 -8.70 Royal Shield 64 11/1.71 11/1.24 -8.70 Royal Life Unh Linked Managed Pund 411.70 44.90 Royal Life Unh Linked Managed Pund 411.70 571.30 -8.40 Property Pund 48/20 58/20 -2.70 Teachic Raisin 86.20 31/1.80 -1.00 Unled States 33.400 35/30 -1.00 Unled States 33.400 35/30 -1.00 SAVE & PROSPER ROYAL J.B. 6/708 76/40	Equily Fund   615 m   614.00   2.30   7	Fixed Interest Fd   X42.00   235.50   0.30    Money Pund   21,00   221,90   0.30    Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80    WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Tellerd   Shrepshire   0.952 26729    Managed Bond   801,00   351,50   0.25    Equily Fund   720.40   730.30   2.25    Fixed totelest   596 0   315,30   2.25    Froperty Fund   731,40   735,50   2.25    Froperty Fund   751,00   740,00   1.60    International 6 Gni 705,10   743,00   4.00    International 6 Fd   745,00   743,00   4.00    International 6 Fd   745,00   743,00   4.00    International 7   743,00   4.00    International 7   744,00   744,00    International 7   745,00   744,00    International 7   745,00   746,00    International 7   745,00    International 7   744,00   745,00    International 7   745,00    Internati
High Income 13/20 30-30 0.00 1.70 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.0	Equily Fund 6   15 m   01.40   2.30   7 mprepriy Fund 20.81   20.81	Fixed Interest Fd   262.00   255.50   0.50   0.00   Money Pund   20.70   221.90   0.20   0.20   Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.50    WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Tellerd   Shrepshire   01952 20729   Managed Bond   201.00   351.50   0.20   0.20   Morrey Fund   311.40   351.50   0.20   0.20   0.20   Equily Fund   723.40   759.30   2.20   0.20
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High Income 13/20 30-50 0.00 1.70 Income 59/30 30-50 1.70 1.70 Ingust 99/30 30-50 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.70 1.7	Equily Fund 6   15 m   61.40   2.30   7 mperty Fund 20.41   0.40   1 mirrational Rd   575.50   1010   0.40   1 mirrational Rd   575.50   1010   0.40   1 mirrational Rd   575.50   1010   0.40   1 mirrational Rd   207.70   214.70   1.7	Fixed Interest Fd   342.40   225.50   0.30    Money Pund   21,00   221,90   0.30    Equily Fund   420.40   449.40   1.80    WINDSOR LIFE   Windsor House Telleral    Winds
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	THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996	5	<b>EQUITY PRICES</b> 41
¢	Proc   Proc	price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.	1985/6   Lew Company
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(2) 39	DISTRIBUTORS   120   137   147   147   157   1	103   3    420   6   22   415   106"   100   100"   100	10   10   10   10   10   10   10   10

		MES DIVITATION	INFORMATION SERV	ICE	70g 10	250 45							
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## German able to relax as early spotlight falls on championship rivals

## Schumacher shines in the shadows

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN MELBOURNE

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER was in a jovial mood here yesterday. He joked with Gerhard Berger, smiled broadly when Jacques Villeneuve said how pleasantly surprised he was that not all Formula One drivers were robots and then hitched a lift on the back of a forklift truck in the pit-lane. He is usually a stranger to such levity.

After all Ferrari's pre-season problems, the delays, the engine blow-ups and the technical problems, Schumacher's happy countenance betrayed the fact that the final stages of the team's build-up to the Australian grand prix tomorrow have not quite been the apocalypse everyone was suggesting. That realisation seems to have lifted a weight from his shoulders.

The young German looks like a beacon now when he walks through the paddock. resplendent in his bright red



A full guide to the grand prix season appears in Car 96 today, with tomorrow's race pre-viewed in detail by Jonathan Palmer, the BBC commentator and ex-Formula One driver. There is also a chance to enter a great new grand prix competition, with prizes worth thousands of pounds to be woл.

uniform. That apart, though, he has attained a measure of welcome anonymity. Everyone loves a winner and they have got Damon Hill and Villeneuve marked down as this weekend's possible victors. The Williams duo are mobbed by a crush of photographers and journalists outside their garage, but, at Ferrari, it is all quiet.

Hill and Villeneuve still have a clear advantage in their Williams-Renaults. They are better prepared than the rest, swapping the lead at the top of the list of times during the early practice sessions, but they can already hear the approaching thunder of the hooves of the Prancing Horse. After a negligible amount of



Schumacher, in a Ferrari, leads Hill during practice yesterday for the Australian Grand Prix, but Hill recorded the day's fastest time

testing in this year's car, Schumacher found himself less than a second off the pace set by Hill in the final session yesterday, close behind Villeneuve and Jean Alesi, in a Benetton-Renault. His teammate. Eddie Irvine, was seventh quickest, but still very much in touch. If this is Ferrari at their least prepared, they are not in bad shape.

There is still the issue of reliability, of course, and they may suffer for their lack of testing miles during the race. but their early competitiveness prompted Schumacher to think for a few seconds before caution got the better of him and he denied again he had any chance of winning the

succession.

"If we had a lot of luck, then maybe we could dream about that," Schumacher said, "but I am not a dreamer. I am a realistic person. We have done

drivers' title for a third year in hardly any miles and we are not quite on the pace. I can't really change my mind about the championship because we cannot expect to solve all our problems in a couple of

### PRACTICE TIMES

1, D Hill (GB) Williams Renault, 1min 32.159sec (avg speed 128.698mph); 2, J Villeneuve (Can) Williams Renault, 1:32.396; 3, J - Alesi (Fr) Benetion Renault, 1:32.475; 4, M Schurvacher (Ger) Ferrari, 1:33.007; 5, R Barrichello (Br) Jordan-Peugeot, 1:33.480; 6, G Berger (Austrie) Benetion Renault, 1:33.528; 7, J Ivrine (GB) Ferrari, 1:33.592; 8, J Verstappen (Holf) Pootwork Harl, 1:33.640; 9, D Coulthard (GB) McLaren Mercedes, 1:33.846; 10, M Halddnen (Fin) McLaren Mercedes, 1:33.935; 11, M Salo (Fin) TyreJ

Yamaha, 1:33.992; 12, H-H Frentzen (Ger) Sauber Ford, 1:34.088; 13, M Brundle (GB) Jorden Peugeot, 1:34.007; 14, O Panis (Fr) Ligier Mugen Hondla, 1:34.156; 15, J Herbert (GB) Sauber Ford, 1:34.664; 16. U Katayama (Japan) Tyrrell Yamaha, 1:34.857; 17, R Rosset (Br) Footwork Hart, 1:35,011; 18, P Diniz (Gr) Ligier Mugen Hondla, 1:35.121, 19, P Lamy (Por) Almardi-Ford, 1:35.477; 21, L Badoer (II) Forti Ford, 1:33.141; 22, A Montermini (II) Forti Ford, 1:43.506.

get quite a lot of running in already this weekend and done a little bit of catching up. I am optimistic. I can see the light at the end of the tunnel and it is getting brighter and brighter. Irvine said the atmosphere

"But we have managed to

in the team's garage was "stressed" as they tried desperately to make up for lost time. "You would not believe how much work we have to do." he said, "but we have got to be encouraged by the fact that we are so close to the rest. It does not look too bad."

After Villeneuve, who scuttles around the paddock looking like Hill's kid brother on a day-trip, had set the quickest time on Thursday, Hill put him in his place yesterday, producing a blistering lap close to the end of the afternoon session and boosting his

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ing session today. The pace is definitely hotting up now," he said. Everyone is getting to explore the circuit in a bit more depth, so it is getting quite

confidence for the one qualify-

exciting. Jacques has adapted very well to Formula One and it is obvious he is going to be a real title contender. I have had some pretty good teammates already, though, so that is nothing new. It is going to be a very close, competitive season. We have a slight advantage now, but things are going to get much tighter."

### Britain signs pact to improve standards

THE Olympic governing bodies of Great Britain and Australia yesterday signed an agreement to promote greater co-operation in physical fitness and sport. The pact, called a memorandum of understanding, governs a two-way exchange of information on coaching, medicine, science and other technical matters relating to high performance in

It was signed in London by the British Olympic Association chairman, Craig Reedie, and John Coates, the president of the Australian Olympic Committee. This agreement is designed to promote the spirit and ethics of the Olympic movement," Reedie said afterwards. "Our goal is to achieve sporting excellence for both our countries and give more men and women the opportunity to develop their

### Rowlands celebrates

BOWLS: Wales avoided the wooden spoon in the home international indoor bowls series at Auckinleck yesterday, surviving a shaky start to beat Ireland 132-102, winning on five of the six rinks. It was reason to celebrate for Phil Rowlands, of Cardiff, who this week became the third generation of the Rowlands family to captain his country, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Tom, and father, Keith. Last night, Scotland, the holders, seemed to have the title sewn up when they led England 112-79 with only 21 ends left to play.

### Giles returns to action

HOCKEY: Calum Giles returns to hockey today, after recovering from a hernia operation, as a substitute in Havant's second team and, if all goes well, he could be on the bench for tomorrow's national league first division match against Teddington. Teddington need to win to be free of relegation worries. Southgate play East Grinstead while, Cannock, their rivals for the championship, visit

### Blue boats on Thames

ROWING: The Oxford University Boat Race crew will lead off the 106 eights in the Reading Head of the River today and are clear favourites to retain their title. They will be followed by a Leander crew stroked by Mark Partridge, a lightweight international. Cambridge will be in action further down the river, on the Boat Race course, involved in races with Imperial College, who were marginally faster than Oxford in meetings a month ago.

### A close run thing

ATHLETICS: At least three leading members of the Great Britain senior squad for the world cross country championships in South Africa on March 23 will compete in the English national championships in Newark today. Andrew Pearson, Chris Sweeney and Alison Wyeth will run against the advice of David Clarke, the British men's team manager, who feels it is too close to the world championships.

### Hazell wins for Kent

BOWLS: Sandy Hazell, of the Mote Park club, Maidstone, won the English women's national indoor singles championship yesterday, beating Jean Baker, of South Forest, Nottinghamshire, 21-8 at Banister Park, Eastleigh. Hazell took a 7-0 lead and, with Baker unable to find a consistent range, the Kent bowler left her opponent trailing with a scoring burst of 3-3-2 in mid-match.

### COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

#### Kick-off 3.0 unless stated \* denotes all-ticket match FA Cup Fifth-round replay (-) Tottenham v Nottmoham Forest Sixth round (-) Cheisea v Wimbledon ..... FA Carling Premiership

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(-) " Charlton	vip	346					

First	t division	
	Barnsley v lpswich	
7.5	* Charlton v Milwall	
idi	Crystal Palace v West B	romwich
1-1	Huddersfield v Luton	
73	Leicester v Grimsby	
120	Norwich v Portsmouth .	
132	Port Vale v Southend .	
1.7	Shatfield Utd v Sloke	
19)	Sunderland v Derby	
127	Tranmere v Birmingham	
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	Watterd v Oldham	nn
107	Wokerhampton v Reads	F APIs
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9) Wallord v	**						
(10) Wolverha	ut	On.	٧l	Rea:	drig		Pis
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Asswall	35	11	11	13 13 11 13	34 54	45	44
Partsmouth	34	11	10	13	54	54	
Simingham	32	11	10	11	42	42	43
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Reading	32	8	14	10	36	40 44	27
Ludge	33	9	10	14	31	35	36
Oldham	31	8	12	11	39	_30_	_==
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Wattord	32	5	12	15	32	45	27
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BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chellerham v Burton: Gresley v Baldock Halesower v Chemistord, Hassings v Worcester likeston: v Crewbey, Martin v Guocester Newport AFC v Comprage City, Stafford v Gravesend and Romblest: Sudbury Town v Salisbury, VS Ruggy v Ameristone Midland divisions: Buckingham Town Bury Town v Brognoth: Dudley Town v Moor Green, Harckley Town v Bedwertin Nuneation v Paces R, RC Warwick v Stourbinger Soffull v Corpy, Surton Caldheld v Kings Lynn, Tarworth v Redditch Southern divisions. Ceredon v Poole Fareham v Forest Green, Harcalt v Erm and Betweeter Strungbourne v Weymouth Toribridge Angels v Bastiley. Troubridge v Ashford: Winney v Nowport 160%, Vale v Margate
UNBOND LEAGUE Premier divisions: Sarrow v Leek, Bishoo Auskland v Ganspoors Sanley, Droylschen v Knowsley, Entey v Barnber Sindige Guissery v Marinet.

Accinigion Stanley, Droylsden v Knowsley, Entey v Bamber Bridge, Gusseley v Marriet, rlyde v Chorley, Matricet v Colleyn Bay, Seemyneer v Boston, Winstord v Erickley, First division: Alfreton v Leigh, Ashion, United v Grema, Almerton LR v Eastwood Town Bradford Pk, Ave v Curzon Ashion, Congeton v Warksop, Farsley, Cellic v Great Harwood, Recwood v Warmington, Harmington, Harcuster, Whitey Boy v Radcaffe, Workington v Lincoln United

# second olivision (11) Blackpool v Notts County (12) Brentford v Wresham (13) Bristol City v Burnley (14) Chesterfield v Brighton (15) Crowe v Bristol Rovers (16) Hull v Bourremouth (17) Oxford Utd v Bradford (18) Rotherham v Swansea (19) Shaveshim v Wecombe

(20) Stockport v Peterborough	
i—) Swindon v Walseli	
(21) York v Cartiste	
PWDLF	A Pts
Swindon 31 19 9 3 53	22 66
Crewe 32 18 7 7 59	
Blackpool 33 17 10 6 51 Notts County 30 16 9 5 42 Chesterfield 29 15 7 7 44 Oxford Litzl 32 14 8 10 42	30 61
Notes County 30 16 9 5 42	23 57
Chesterfield . 29 15 7 7 44	31 52 31 50
Oxford Litz! 32 14 8 10 42	31 50
Bristol Rovers 33 14 8 11 42	43 50
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Bredford 32 13 6 13 44	49 45
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Bournemouth 33 12 5 16 36	48 41
Shrewsbury . 33 11 7 15 43	48 40
Rentford 33 10 10 13 31	
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Rotherham 33 10 9 14 38	47 39
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Burnley 30 10 9 11 42 Rotherham 33 10 9 14 38 Walsal 31 10 9 12 35 York 31 8 9 14 36	48 33
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ICIS LEAGUE: First division: 8	
RAS LEAGUE; FIRE UIVISION: I	SERVING Y
Thame: Berton Rovers v Abingoli Berthamsled v Oxford City, Bit	Harirov v
Chesham; Bognor Regis v Wi	redelesier
Maidenhead United v Heybridg	a Suite
Marlow v Basingstoke: Russip	Manne
Aldershot Town; Staines v Leyton	Pennant
Ustradra v Tooting And	Mitcham:

LEAGUE OF WALES: ADeryswylli V Cemaes Bay, Bangor Cay v Cwmbran, Caernarton v Atan Lido; Connah's Quay v Uansantifrad; Plint Town v Bation Ferry (2.30): Lanella v Conwy, Newtown v Barry (2.50): Porthmadog v Caersws; Ton Perite

FOOTBALL

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Querter-finals: Cort. v Stigo; Derry v Shelbourne (3 15); Wayside C v SI Petrick's Ath (3.15)

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division:

Experior of House Counties Floodlit TROPHY: Semi-final, first leg: Perinth v

Mossley
FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE. Netional Laggue: Evenon v Liverpool F C
Lackes; Mitwell Licresses v Maston.
FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE CUP: Final:
Marribley v Doncaster Beltes

Wantbley v Doncester Baltes FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern of-

kuck-off 3.0 unless stated

Leeds v Liverpool (4 0) ...

Celtro v Dundee Utd (3 15)

Tennents Scottish Cup

FA Cup

Spoth round

Fifth round

Aldershot Town: Stames v Leyfon Pennant Luthodge v Tooting and Mitcham; Woldingham v Wembley. Second division: Bracknell v Bedford T: Chalfort St Peter v Cheshunt; Collier R v Weenhoe; Edgmare v Metropoliran Police, Egham v Leatherhead. Hampton v Dorlding; H Hempstead v Ware: Hungerford v Tibury; Saffron Walden v Croydon; Wiffern v Carnvey Island Third division: Camberley v Windson and Eion: East Thurrock v Tring; Flackwell Heath v Cove; Harefleid v Hersfort, Hombunch v Kingsbury; Horsham v Wealdstone; Leighton v Cleptor: Leves v Northwood; Southall v Harlow: Wingste and Finchley v Aveley LEAGUE! OF WALES: Aberystwyth v LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth

(23) Carlotto V Fulfram (25) Colchester v Bury (26) Derlington v Torquay (27) Eyeler v Dorozater (28) Gillingham v Preston (28) Gillingham v Preston (28) Collhorada v Manfallat (29) Hardepool v Mansfield
(30) Lincoln v Wigan
(31) Northampton v Scarborough
(32) Rochdale v Leyton Orient
(33) Scunthorpe v Hereford Vauxhell Conterence

v Hotywell.
ESSEX SENGOR LEAGUE: Premier di-velion: Basidon U v Meldon; Bowers v Fomford, Brantwood v East Ham; Concord v Sewbridgeworth; Ford Linited v Southend Manor, Great Wakering v Stansled.

Bell's Scottish League First division (22) Barnet v Chester
(23) Carnbridge Utd v Plymouth
(24) Cardiff v Fufhern
(25) Colchester v Bury
(26) Derfington v Torquay
(27) Eveter v Deverter 

(39) Macclestileid y Halfar (40) Rundom v Dover (41) Soughy v Degenhern and Red (42) Southport v Bromsgrove (43) Stalybridge v Stevenage (44) Talybrid v Northwich LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Beaconstield SYCOB v orvision: seaconsines 31cus Coydon; Americam: Baok House v Coydon; Hitingdon Borough v Woolwich: Waltham Abbey v Beringside; Willesden (Hawkeye) v Horwell Linegue Cup: Semi-finals, first leg: SI Margaretsbury v Tufnell Park Brinsdown v Connthen-Casuals. MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: MENERYA SOUTH MIDDANUS LEAGUE:
Pramier division: Potters Bar v Mitton
Keynes; Harpenden v Brache Sparta;
Letchworth v Buckmorban Antietic, Antesey
Town v Hoddlesdon, Langdard v Shallington;
Hatheld v Biogleswade; Toddington v WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First

RUGBY UNION

CIS county championship

noisivib bnoo Third division (55) Albron v Livingston (56) Brechin v Ousen's Park (57) Coordenbeath v Ross County (58) East Strling v Arbroath icis League 

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Menor Farm v Bidelord; Chippenham v Torrington; Paution R v Tauraton Les Phillips Cup; Third round: Mangotsfield v Mithehead. Quarter-finals; Samstaple v Elmore; Calne v Twerton; Westbury v Bristrigton. Westbury v Brisington.
JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division:
Claccon v March Diss v Tiptree; Feliosiows
v Sudbury Res. Great Yarmouth v
Stownartert, Hadleigh United v Sohem:
Harwich and Parkeston v Watton; Haverhill
v Comert; Newmarket v Fallerhilm;
Wisbech v Lowestont; Woodbridge v
Halsted, Wrodham v Sudbury.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover v Aerostructures; BAT v
Petersfield: Bemarton Heeth v Cowes;
Eastleigh v Pottsmouth; Ryde Sports v
Lymingtor; Swanage and Herston v Gospor; Thatchem v Downton; Whitchurch v
Brockenhurst; Winborné v Totton.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Burgess 1981; UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arunde' v Burges Hill; Crowborough v Hailsham, Hassocks v Horsham YMCA; Languey Sports v Calwood: Pagham v Peachtaven and Telscombe; Pourlied v Mile Calc Southwick v Ringmer; Stamou v Wick, Time Bridges v Shorehem; Whitehawk v Eastbourne Town. ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carthurians v Forestres Chrimalians v Certhusiens v Forestens; Chigwellians v Regionians; Esonians v Cholmeleians; Malvernans v Aldenhamians; First division: Frantwoods v Bradfieldleine; Selopaens v Wykehamats; Wildelms v Hadeyburtains.

TOMORROW WOMENS CENTENARY INTER-NATIONAL: tretand v England (Belfield, Dublin, 20)

WOMEN'S WELSH CUP: Quarter-linel: Llenell v Carolif Arth Surrey v Gloucestershire (at imber Court, 2.45) ....... Lisnell v Cardiff Adh
WOMENS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP:
Zone one (Silcevortin, 9.30) Burham v
Mana Lige: Lancashire v LCL: Humberside v
Shefiteld; Lancashire v LCL: Humberside v
Shefiteld; Lancas v Northumb; Chashire v
Durham. Zone two (Bournamouth, 10.30)
Glos v Devon; Herstords v Dorset; Somerset v Clos; Devon v Herstords. Zone three
(Bisham, 9.30) Oxon v Berls, Shropshire v
Surfolit, Staffs v Oxon, Suffolit v Derbys,
Berls v Staffs. Zone four (Bedford, 11) Kent
v Lincs, Sussex v Werwicks, Keni v
Northerits, Sussex v Middix. HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division:
Berlord Tigers v Surbiton (Holyhead Leisure
Centre, 1:0): Bourmille v Centrefuny
(Birmingham University, 2:30); Guildford v
India Gynthrana (Kings Manor School,
noon), Hourslow v Cannock (Chasick,
2:0); Reading v Hali (Sonning Lane, 2:0);
Soutingate v East Grinstead (Broomfield
School, 2:0); St Albarts v Stouport (Charance Park, 2:0); Teddington v Havarti
(Teddington School, 1:30) Second division: Beaston v Firebrands (Highiteids,
Noturgham, 2:0, Bluefrants v Isca (Histrin
Boys School, 2:0); Brootlands v Otton and
West Wanwolshire (Georges Road, Sale,
2:0): City of Porismouth v Doncaster
(Alexandra Park, 1:30); Edgbaston v Bromley (Birmingham Univestry, 12:30); Hamisted and Westmartster v Crossyx
(Paddington Recreation Ground, 12:30);
Octard University v Richmond (Si Edwards
School, 2:30); Sheffield v Harisscon Magpies (Abbeydale Park, 2:30), Stough v
Gloucester City (Weenam School, 2:0) HOCKEY ICE HOCKEY BRITISH LEAGUE Championethip play-otts: Fite v Sheffield (6.30), Nottingham v Basnossloke (7.30), Caroliff v Durham (6.15); Humbarode v Newcastle (5.45) Promotion/relegation play-offs: Bracknell v Guildlord (5.15); Milton Keynes v Black-burn (6.0), Durnfries v Swindon (5.30), Mannehestra v Smirh (6.1)

BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester v Worthing (5.0), Sheffield v Doncaster (6.15); Thames Valley v Hernel (8.0). HELLENSC LEAGUE: Premier division: Bibester v Swindon Supermarine; Brackley v Amondsbusy, Burnham v Kintbury, Carlanton v Banbury, Circincester v Diddot, Fairford v Lambourn Sports; Highworth v HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUN-TIES LEAGUE: Premise division: Boston v Eynesbury; Desborough v Long Buckby, kempston v Stotdold; Mirriess Blackstone v Bourne; Newport Pegnell v Stanford; Potton v Cogenhoe; Raunds v Holbach; Spalding v St Neots; S and L Corby v Wootton; Wellingborough v Northampton Scencer. Spencer.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND FOOTBALL ALLIANCE: Barwell v W Mid Police;
Crassetown v Bolshaft. Halasowen v
kyrpersley; Hinddey Affletic v Shirtat,
Rushall v Pershore; Sandwell v Oldbury;
Shepshed v Boldmers M (Shafford v
Biskenhalt; Willenhall v Rocaster.

pisastmar, widenthali v Hooseler.

PhDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION:
Premier division: Bloowich v Handrahan
Timbers; Coleshil v Mer KA, Coventry
Spirotx v Uptor; Highgate v Awacturch
Villa; Massey Ferguson v Weltesbourne;
Southam v Anselis; Shirley v Knowle;
Studley BKL v Chelmsley Carisberg Cup:
Fourth round: Kings Heath v Colletis
Green.

Southern v Anselis, Shirley v Knowle, Studiey BKJ, v Cheirnsley Carlsberg Cup: Fourth round: Kngs Heath v Colletis Green.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Gornal v Tividale; Ludiow v Stafford; Lye Town v Cradley Town: Malvern v Watsal Wood; Peisal v Blowwork, Stoupport v Lichileld: Wednesfield v Darleston; Westfields v Brierley Hil; Wolverhampton v Hill Top.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armitrope Welters v Thackley, Arnold v Hallam; Denaby v Brigg Town; Goole v North Ferriby, Liversedge v Beiper Town, Casett Albon v Hambaid Main; Denaby v Brigg Town; Goole v North Ferriby, Liversedge v Beiper Town, Casett Albon v Hambaid Main; Denaby v Brigg Town; Goole v North Ferriby, Liversedge v Hudenalt; Sheffield v Glasshoughton Welters in Casett Cown, Casett Albon v Hambaid Main; Polemry v Hudenalt; Sheffield v Glasshoughton Welters in Chaddenon v Pennit; Eastwood H v Boode; Maine Road v Glossop North End; Rossendale v Citheroe; St Helens v Narhwich; Skeimersdele v Perscot, Leegue Cup: Fourth round: Atherton Colleties v Narhwich; Skeimersdele v Burscough; Peton v Trafford; Newcastle Town v Mossley

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE; First division: Bedvington Terders v Crook; Billingtam v Stockon; Chester-lestington Terders v Crook; Billingtam v Rouder Colleties v Whitchtam; Seelarm Rad Star v Eppleton CW; Tow Law v Muton.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Portsmouth v Norwich (2.0).

division: Portsmouth v Norwich (2.0). BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Galway v Dundalk (7.0) FAI MARP LAGER CUP: Duserter-finel: Finn

Harps v Bohernians (7:30).

BASS IRISH CUP: Quarter-finals: Cruseders v Linfeld; Glenavon v Carriot; Gentoran v Ballymena; Portadown v Ards

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First chvision: Arsenai v Norunch; Cambridge
Utal v Leyton Onent; Chelsee v Southend;
Furhern v Gillinghern; Ipswich v Charlton
Art; Tottenham Hotspur v Miswell; Warford
v Portsmouth; West Hern v QPR.
AFA SENIOR CUP: Sami-finals; Ctvl
AFA SENIOR CUP: Sami-finals; Ctvl
AFA SENIOR CUP: Sami-finals; Ctvl Service v Old Ignatians; Old Actonians Association v Old Tenisonans. OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier divis Clapham v Old Aloysans; Lalymer v Old Islaworthians; Old Hamptonians v Old Senior first division: Old Suttonians v Glyn. Senior first division: Old Suttonians v Chertsey; Old Triffnians v Old Salvarorians; Old Wilsonians v Shene; Phoenty v Old Wilsonians.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE FIRST SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Pirst division: East Barnet OG v Kew Association; Old Estharmalans v Noresmen; South Bank v Crouch End Vempires; West Wickham v Nat West Bank; Winchham v Nat West Bank; Winchham v Nat West Bank; Old Larshalton. Second division: Lersbuy'v Midland Benk; Old Laymenans v Lloyds Bank; Old Lyonian v Atexandra Park; Old Parteorians v Old Barnetans; Old Parmetans v Barclays Bank, Old Staboners v Polytechnic. Third division: Alleyn OB v Relgate Priov; Bank of England v Cusco; Brentlam v Old Westmanster Chizens; Merton v Broomfekt. Old Salesians v Southoate Ownnor. Caparis; Marion V Broomieric Urb Sale-sians v Southgate Olympia. SCLITHERN CLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Albenten v St Mary's College; Notisborough v Hale End Athlenc; Old Grentmatiens v Ulysses; Parkheld v Old Owens; Witzn v Southgate County.

SCHOOLS MATCHES (10.30 unless stated): Under-15 Infarmational: England v Spam (at Wembley 2.0). FA Premier League under-18 frophy: Devon v Surrey at Torquay FC, 3.0). London Cup: Essex v Buckinghamshira. English Croydon Cup: Semi-final: Croydon v Grevesham. Kent Cup: Semi-final: Pottern Piction Sheld: Semi-final: Pottern V Suthampton. Vale Cup: High Wycombe v Velle of White Horse Shaw Cup: Ipsavich v W Suffok. Cotswolde League: Mid Oxon v Newbury. BP League: Gloucester v Southampton. Cheshire Servior Cup: Semi-final: Scheshire v Kirkoy Knowsley. Mersey-side Cup: Setton v Kalton. Woodward Cup: Blackbool v Kirkoy Knowsley. Mersey-side Cup: Setton v St. Heilers. Vorkshira Trophy: Samsley v Hull. Snickers under-19 trophy: St Cultibate Hs. Northumber-land v Ridge Danyers College, Git Manchester. Northern Maric Leads v Blackpool. Hereward Trophy: S Leicester v S Nots: English Goodyear under-16 trophy: St Francis Xavier, Mersey-side v Lacon Cylide, Shropshire: Mooreside, Greafer Manchester v Werbrack. Lancashre, (11.0). Vernon League: Crosby v St Heiers: Kirkty v Schemansdeie; Wiral v Lverpool. London Pear Trophy: Semi-final: N Kent v Islington. Essex Johnson Cup: Bealdon v Redbridge (10.0). Inter-Association: Botton v Crester; Barking v Gosport; Newham v Bermondsey: Notingham v Sheffield, S Notits v Doncaster; Sunderland v Derby, Green Trophy: Blackburn v Chorley, Burnley v Pendle Manchester v Wigan West Middands League: Stole v West Bromwich; Coverthy v Kings Norton.

ICE HOCKEY BRITISH LEAGUE: Championship play-offs (6.30): Basingstoke v Shefield: Notingham v File; Durham v Humberside; Newcastle v Cardiff. Promotion/relegation play-offs: Black-burn v Bracinell (6.0); Guildford v Milton Keynes (6.0); Slough v Durinfes (6.30), Swindon v Manchesler (5.30).

BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham v Newcastie (7.30); Worthing v Derby (8.0). OTHER SPORT BOXING: World Boxing Organisation

super-middleweight championship: Steve Collins (Dublin, holder) v Neville Brown (Burton-on-Trent) (Green Glens Arens, Millistreet). Arena, Milistreeu

LACROSSE: Shepherds Friendly Soci-

AUSTRIA

Mayrholen

Saalbach

St Anton

FRANCE

Les Arcs

Tignes

Val Thorens

Grindelwald

SWITZERLAND

Sof

ety League: Premier division: Timperiey v Cheadle; Poynton v Heaton Mersey; Sheffield Steelers v Hulmetans; Stockport v Old Waconlans.

RUGBY UNION Kick-off 2 30 unless stated CIS county championship Semi-final

CIS under-21 county championship Semi-finals Yorkshire v Gloucestershire (at Olley, 2.15) .......

Courage Clubs Championship First division Wasps v Harlequins (3.0) ...... Second division Fourth division

Fifth division north Broughton Park v Stoke (3 0) .. ....... Heineken League Aberann v Treorchy
Abertalery v Pontypridd
Bridgend v Neath
Carditi v Ebbw Vale
Newbodge v Llanell
Newport v Swarsea

Second division Caerphilly v Ystradgynlais
Dunvant v Bonymaen
Llandovery v Cross Keys
Massteg v Llanharen
South Wales Police v Abercynon
Teriby Utd v Ponypool

THIRD DIVISION: Blackwood v Builth Wells; Glamorgan Wndrs v Penarth, Kentig Hill v Cardiff Inst. Mountain Ash v Tredegar; Pyle v Narberth; Tondu v Blaina. Tennents 1556 Cup Tennents Championship Regional League

Watsonians v Edinburgh Acads (3.0) ... Kelso v Gala (3.0) ..... East one

Haddington v Preston Lodge (3.0)........ Musseiburgh v Edinburgh Wndrs (3.0)... East two Dundee HSFP v Constorphine (3.0) ...... Gordonians v Heriots FP (3.0) ...... Stewart's Mei FP v Kirkcaldy (3.0) .....

SNOW REPORTS - 7. Weather (cm) Conditions Runs to U Piste Off/p resort

ladir crust worm

(Good snow at altitude but worn at lower levels) Source: Ski Club of Great Britain, L - lower stopes; U - upper.

(2bm) The Mean of the Mean of 0 65 fair varied closed (Suriny skiling; most pistes still skiling well) sun -2 2/3 (Surby sterig, rives pistes sair saming well)
65 75 hard spring good sun (Odd worn palch but mostly good; hard-packed snow)
65 190 good varied good tine
(Pistes well-groomed and skiling well; good moguls)
40 80 good varied lair sun
(Good skiling in all main areas; sunny) 1/3 85 200 good heavy ky su (Hard-packed snow with occasional ky patch) 115 210 good varied hard su (Pistes hard first thing but still generally good) sun -8 2/3 130 200 good varied good (Good piste skiing on majority of runs) fine -3 2/3

24hr skiing information direct from resorts in: ROMANIA/BULGARIA er for a laxed report 0891 662 258 Dial the above number from a **EWEATHERLINE** 0891 333 462 sun 6 1/3 That Shi Clark at Assort Assista

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division (2.30). Dudley Hill v Wigan St Pathoks; Heworth v West Hull, Lock Lane v Egremont; Mayfield v Hernel Hernostead: Milliom v Leigh Miners Welfare; Woolston v

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Tro-jans v Old Loughdonans (Storicham Lane 10), Sacoral division: University v Stough (St Edward's School, noon) NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Haf-tax v Harrogate: Norton v Ben Rhydding. Shaffield Bankers v Formby, Timperley v Neston: Warnington v Southport. Nesion: Warrington v Southport.
NRSSAN IRISH CUP: Serni-finals:
Holywood 87 v Avote (Dymple LC, 1.0);
Listrageney v Cork COI (Blaris, 2.30).
WOMEN'S CENTENARY INTERNATIONAL: Iteland v England (Belfield,
Dubin, 1.0)
BEGINNAL I FACIES: Sinet Cooks C. v. REGIONAL LEAGUES: East: Cambs C v Bedgy,Bazn. West: Hedeng v Chemeniam. WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Zone one (Skisworth, 10:30) Durham v LCL; Northumb v Humberside; Manc Lge v Yorkshee; Sheffield Lge v Cumbra. Zone two (Bournemouth, 10:30) Clos v Cornwal; Devon v Dorset; Herelords v Somerset; Dorset v Glos; Somerset v Devon Comwall v Harsterde

West of Scotland v Glasgow HK (3 0)
West of Scotland v Glasgow South (3 0)
Wigtownshire v Ayr (3 0)

Club matches
Berry Hill v Lichfield (3.0).
Blackheath v Rosslyn Park (3.0).
Broughmur v Stirling County (3.0).
Bradford and Bingley v Sheffield (3.0).
Chekenham v Esher (3.0)...
Covertry v Saracens
Heritey v Earngemouth (3.0).
Kendal v Durham City (3.0)...
Mel Police v Havani (3.0)....
Middleste v Havani (3.0).....
Middleste v Howani (3.0).....

RUGBY LEAGUE

Waterloo v Sale (3 0) ... . . . .

Sitik Cut Challenge Cup

Semi-final

Club matches

Presentos.

CLUB MATCHES: Blackburn v Ben
Rhydding: Blueharts v Ealing, Clitton v
Swersea, Crimson R v Otton; Deesida v
Poyriton; Eomouth v Brackhelf; Reading v West Witney; St Albans v Wimbledon Sherifeld v Sherwood, Woking v Canterbury



## Chief's Song in tune for Sandown test

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

THE Sunderlands Imperial Cup traditionally supplies the final piece of the Cheltenham jigsaw and today's renewal at Sandown offers punters an excellent chance of topping up their Festival betting banks. During the past 11 years three winners of the two-mile handicap hurdle - Floyd, Moody Man and Olympian - have gone on to win at Cheltenham and Chief's Song looks to have a bet-inducing chance of completing the first leg of the

Simon Dow has always held his six-year-old in high regard and had Alderbrook fallen by the wayside in the run-up to Cheltenham the Epsom train-

### RICHARD EVANS

Nap: CHIEFS SONG (4.05 Sandown Park) Next best: Fassan (1.45 Ayr)

er would have seriously considered running Chief's Song in the Champion Hurdle. Best on good ground over a stiff two miles, he opened his account for the season at Cheltenham in November when defeating Putty Road and Backgammon. Eleven days later he followed up under Richard Dunwoody when beating Eskimo Nel a short head in the William Hill Hurdle over today's course and distance.

Against 21 rivals, he displayed considerable gameness that day in a higher standard of race than this afternoon's. Although he subsequently disappointed in The Ladbroke. the soft ground at Leopardstown and an interrupted preparation were to blame.

There have been no hitches in the run-up to today and with Dunwoody booked to



Norman Conqueror, carrying the colours of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, wins the Horse And Hound Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown yesterday

ride, Dow is exuding quiet confidence. "The preparation has gone very smoothly and he's fit and well. He did his last piece of work on Tuesday and has a lot going for him in the race," he said yesterday.

Silver Groom has been the subject of considerable antepost support during the week. Reg Akehurst's runner will also appreciate the better ground but he is not the most fluent hurdler. At Ascot last year he was beaten eight lengths by Chief's Song and is only 41b better off. Eskimo Nel was involved in a ding-dong battle with my selection at

Sandown but is only 1lb better

the Tote Gold Trophy.
The Imperial Cup is often

won by a lightly raced hurdler towards the foot of the handicap and Tennessee King is an interesting outsider. A winner Ludlow last season, he subsequently split Non Vintage and Mack The Knife and is more than two stone better off with Non Vintage here.

Away from the television cameras, Dark Stranger could offer some value when making his chasing debut in the Llangibby Novices' Chase at Chenstow (2.30). A winner on the Flat in France two years ago, Charlie Brooks's recruit

off and suffered a bad fall in confirmed the promise shown on his hurdling debut when winning at Haydock 15 days ago. He is reported to have schooled well over fences at home and, as a five-year-old, is particularly well treated at

> Bell's Life is due a change of luck, more than any other horse in training, having been forced out when in contention at Uttoxeter last month before being brought down at Newbury eight days ago when travelling well. With a strong pace ensured by the front-running James The First, Philip Hobbs's well-handicapped charge should go well.

### Draborgie doubt

BOOKMAKERS yesterday suspended betting on the Guinness Arkle Trophy Chase at Cheltenham next Tuesday in the face of considerable doubts about the participation of Draborgie, the 2-I favourite, trained by Martin Pipe (Julian Muscat

writes). Pipe was non-committal about the mare's prospects of making the line-up and unusual betting patterns prompted William Hill to draw stumps. "The alarm

bells started ringing when punters wanted to cancel their bets on Draborgie and there was money for the next three in the betting," David Hood, the firm's racecourse representative, said.

In other Cheltenham Festival news, Jason Titley is likely to take the ride on the outsider Squire Silk, trained by Andy Turnell, in the Smurfit Champion Hurdle, also on Tuesday. Paul Carberry, Squire Silk's regular rider, misses the mount because of suspension.

However, in a race which

looks tricky. General Rusty

gets the narrow vote despite

not having raced for 147 days.

Charlie Mann's chaser still

holds a Cheltenham Gold

Cup entry which shows the

high regard in which the

progressive eight-year-old is held. He jumps boldly and

### SANDOWN PARK

3.30 Spanish Light 1.55 The Major Genera 4.05 Amancio 4.40 Cuddy Dale 2.25 Coralette 5.15 Adept Flyer

2.55 Bone Setter Carl Evans: 1.55 The Major General.

GOING: GOOD (CHASE COURSE); GOOD TO SOFT (HURDLES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

1,55 DICK MCCREERY HUNTERS CHASE

(Amaleurs £2,684: 2m 4( 110yd) (5 runners) SETTING: 13-8 On The Beer, 3-1 True Steel, 7-2 The Major General, 6-1 Some Orlegation, 8-1 High

1995: EASTSHAW 13-10-11 Mr C Ward Thomas (Evens law) T Forster 3 ran 2.25 HIGH SPEED PRODUCTION NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

761: 2m 110yd) (15 nxmers)

002-U41 DECDE YOURSELF 15 (D.S) (D Wilcon) I Thomson Jones 6-11-7
01- BEST OF FRIENDS 230 (6) LI McRath) Mass H KnoN 6-11-2
42 CRALETTE 21 (85) (1aby) Metibes) N Newterna 6-11-2
43 FAR SPRINSS 113 IA Solomons) N Salety 5-11-2
44 FELDO 15 (Mrs.) Erhearts-Habitacist I George 7-11-2
200 GENERAL JACKIE 58 (M Jackson) J Geltont 6-11-2
200 MARIEDIAN CHORLES 65 (Harlegue Solvener) J 016 6-11-2
200 MARIEDIAN CHORLES 65 (Harlegue Solvener) J 016 6-11-2
200 MANDIALAY 10 (Judet Allement J 016 7-11-2
2030 MANDIALAY 10 (Judet Allement J 016 7-11-2
20-10 MANDIALAY 10 (Judet Allement J G Bradley 82

JF They ...

LA Ritoperals (B)

J Marphy (1) 92

Lients 79

LA Seef (5) 67

JR Kananagh

K Gade (5)

P Carberry 9

JA McCarthy I

C Mande (5)

BETTRIS: 7-2 Decade Yourself, 5-1 Coratema 11-2 Mandatay, 8-1 Far Spongs, Hermetta Howard Maure De Musique, 10-1 Fellon, 12-1 others. 1995: FOODBROKER STAR 5-11-0 P Hide (16-1) J Gifford 10 can

2,55 BARCLAYS BANK HANDICAP HURDLE (Amateurs: £4,297: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

BETTINGS: 5-2 Keel Row, 7-2 Bone Setter, 9-2 Blazon Di Troy, 6-1 Society Guest, 8-1 Nocachure, 10-1 Kelly Mac, 12-1 Happy Horse, 20-1 others

1995; JURZ 7-11-3 Mr J Trice Rolph (4-1) R Hodges 10 gas FORM FOCUS

C4

SOCIETY GUEST 8½1 3rd of 13 to Dress Dance in Improbacio burdie at Faunton (2m 11, good to 201) on perailimate start, with BLAZON OF TROY brought down 3rd BLAZON OF TROY 9½1 3rd of 9 to Metay in Inadicap furdie at Fornivell (2m 2/) solly MAPPY HORSE 831 8th of 13 to Samilee in povice chase at Tambon (3m, soll), BOME SETTER beat Nadast 1½1 to 7-review broads days at Lustow (2m, good to larm) MACEDONAS 23½1 4th of 7 to Selection: BOME SETTER

3.30 BURNT OAK & SPECIAL CARGO NOVICES CHASE (£4,440: 2m) (4 runners)

BETTING: 11-70 Senor El Betruto, 9-4 Lord Dorcet, 3-1 Spanish Light. 14-1 Aedesan.

FORM FOCUS

1995: KENG CREDO 10-11-2 J.F. Tisley (7-2) S. Woodman 7 ran

LORD DORCET best Pimberley Place 2½ in 7-runner navice chase at Ascot (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start, SENOR EL BETRUTTI best Cam-packs Bay Tilly in Grade 1 Softly Islas Novice Chase here (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) SPANSSH Selection: SENOR EL BETRUTTI

4.05 SUNDERLANDS IMPERIAL CUP (Handicap hurdle: £20,990: 2m 110yd) (11 runners)

1995: COLLIER BAY 5-10-2 T Combers (6-1) J Old 10 ran FORM FOCUS

ESKOMO NEL 91 6th of 9 to Thomton Gale in bandicap hundle at Haydock (2m, soft) on peculi-mate start. CHEP'S SCHIG beat, ESKOMO NEL (16b better oil) short-head in 22-numer handrcap hundle of the course and destance, (good) penulibrate start. WARIM SPELL beat Frickley 41 in 12-numer handrap hundle at Warious burdle at leaguests own twinting burdle at Kenghon (2m, good) on penulibrate start, with SELVER GROOM (12b better oil) 551 9th KNRGSPOLD PET beat Tejano Gold 21 en 11-numer handrap hundle at Wesherby (2m, good to soft). NON VINTAGE best effort lifes term 71 3rd of 18 to Square Site in Grade 3 Tote Gold.

4.40 H M S SANDOWN HANDICAP CHASE

(£7,068: 3m 110vd) (10 runners)

C4

Long handicap: Gipa Valu 9-13, All Clap Hands 7-13. DANS INNOCESS. CHEE YOU IN THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF T

1995: MA BOSTON 10-11-10 P Noven (11-8 lav) Mrs M Reveley 5 cm FORM FOCUS

BISHOP'S HALL 281 of the 16 to Couldn't Be Berter in firmited francicap chase at Haydock (3m., good to firmi) peautitimate start. BAVARID DEU 151 4th of 11 to Super Tactics in familicap chase at kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). GENERAL RUSTY completed trebte, beating Bas De Laire 3f in hand-cap chase at Kempton (3m., good, ARTHURF).

MINISTREL beat CUDDY DALE (2m better off) 4th in hand-cap chase at Kempton (3m., good, ARTHURF).

MINISTREL beat CUDDY DALE (2m better off) 4th in hand-cap chase over course and distance (good

5.15 FLYERS STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,417: 2m 110yd) (22 runners)

2711 110yd) (22 TIRTREYS)

I HURRICANE LAMP 22 (S) (F Welch, R Barrs) D Nichalson 5-11-11 R Johnson (3) — 5 McRiedl — 5 McRiedl — 5 McRiedl — 5 McRiedl — 5 McRiedl — 5 McRiedl — 5 McRiedl — 6 McRiedl — 6 McRiedl — 6 McRiedl — 6 McRiedl — 7 McRied

BETTINGS; 3-1 Humourne Lamp. 4-1 Manching Manquis, 5-1 Franks Jester, 8-1 Jobssgoodus, 10-1 Strong Paladin Adapt Phys., 12-1 others 1995: LINE OF CONQUEST 5-71-8 A Tory (12-1) R Hodges 22 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS JOCKEYS Mr C Ward Thomas Mr J Trice-Rolph R Dunwoody J Titley Mr D Alers-Hantey W Marston

### Jodami misses Gold Cup

JODAMI, the 1993 Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, will miss this year's race next Thursday because of a bacterial infection. The Peter Beaumont-trained gelding will now be aimed at the Martell Grand National at Aintree on March 30, in which he is due to carry top weight in the absence of the injured Master Oats. Beaumont, who received the results of tests carried out on Jodami yesterday, said. He has a good weight in the National and I have always thought he was a National horse. It is just that I would rather have gone to Cheltenham

### General Rusty to shine after lengthy absence the weights for three-quarters

**CHEPSTOW** BBC1

1.00: Silver Standard, from an in-form stable, makes most appeal against some out-of-form opponents. The mare is more effective at longer trips but may overcome that handicap in this company. Selatan has claims if, as seems likely, David Gandolfo's horse improves for tackling 2½ miles for the first time. He stayed well on the Flat.

1.30: This should concern the top three in the handicap, with King Lucifer narrowly preferred to Sister Stephanie and Major Bell. King Lucifer would almost certainly be Cheltenham-bound but for his tendency to make mis-takes. He blundered away a

winning chance last time but is worth support on his fa-Bell boasts two narrow victories in as many starts over fences but looks a shade high in the weights. Sister Stephanie, another prone to jumping errors, has the most scope and rates a bigger danger. 2.00: Backgammon may fi-

nally have got his act together and two recent victories should have lifted his confihave come in handicaps, for which he qualified after a series of placed efforts in novice company. He has place prospects. Lake Kariba probably failed to stay here last time, and merits respect back over this shorter trip.

JULIAN MUSCAT

3.15 (2m 4l ch) 1, Aljadeer (A Thomton, 7-2); 2, Seymour Spy (33-1); 3, East Houston (5-1) Artic Wings 5-2 lav, 11 ran, 3-9, 71 M W Easterby, Tote: £5 30; £1.60, £10 70, £2 40, DF; £188,30, Trio: £155,30, CSF: £89,99



**TODAY'S RACES** ON TELEVISION

SANDOWN

CHANNEL 4 2.25: Having steered Norman Conqueror to success here for the Queen Mother yesterday. Major Ollie Ellwood can complete a notable double on

tingham and Fakenham and this stiffer track should bring about further improvement. The front-running No-

catchim has claims on his best form, but disappointed at Fakenham last time. Bone Setter boasted decent hurdles form at the start of this season and is one for the short list. but Stan Mellor's gelding's last four runs have been over fences and he has not raced for 96 days. Kelly Mac is not badly handicapped, but is probably best on a sharper has more to do here.

ish Light. The slight worry is today's distance as Susan Nock's impressive novice has

old has plenty of pace and has been running in better class races than his rivals.

Spanish Light won over three miles earlier this term but is almost certainly better over shorter trips and ran out an easy winner from Fiftysevenchannels over today's trip on soft ground at Haydock two weeks ago. Lord Dorcet was travelling well when unseating his rider four out at Wetherby last time, but

4.05: See above.

3.30: Senor El Betrutti is 4.40: Arthur's Minstrel marginally preferred to Span- jumped better than usual when winning over course and distance three weeks ago and should confirm the form with second-placed Cuddy Dale in spite of a 2lb swing in

> 2.00 BEAUFORT NOVICES HURDLE (5-Y-0: £13,745: 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

King Credo, formerly a useful hurdler, has never really taken to the larger obstacles and preference is for Gilpa Valu. Jenny Pitman's gelding can be forgiven his latest effort when pulled up at Wincanton, as he ruined his chance with a bad early

of a length.

stays well.

RICHARD EVANS

### YESTERDAYS RESULTS:

Sandown Park

Going: good 2.00 (2m 6f hole) 1, Him Of Praise (J A McCarthy, 9-1); 2, Zeptyrus (5-2), 3, Injectabuck (14-1) Crown Equerry 13-8 lav. 10 ran. 4l, %l. O Sherwood. Tote: £14.10; £3.30, £1.10, £2.40 DF: £34.50 This: £35.50. CSF: £30.06.

2.35 (2m 4f 110yd chi) 1, Smiling Chief (T Dascombe, 11-2); 2, Maestro Paul (100-30), 3, Rapjack Lad (13-2) Herbert Buchanen 9-4 av. 6 ran. 10l, 2l, R Hodges, Tole: £8.00; £3.00, £1.70. DF. £16.30 CSF £21.63. 3.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Norman Conqueror (Major O Biwood, 3-1); 2, Irish Bay (14-1); 3, Equity Player (10-1) Mr Boston 15-8 tav (1), 11 ran. 2/4, 5i. 7 Thorrson Jones. Tote: £4 10; £1 40. £1 80, £2 60. DF. £25.50. Trio: £46.00. CSF. £40.77.

3.40 (2m 6) hole) 1, Lead Vocalist (D O'Sullivan, 4-1), 2, Newton Point (4-1), 3, Father O'Brien (12-1), Native Field 11-4 tav. 8 ran. 41, 71, 8 Rowe, Tota: £6.00: £1.90, £1.80, £2.80 DF: £12.50. CSF £19.92, Trasst £182.90.

4.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Over The Edge (Mr S Sportorg, 11-4); 2. On The Other Hand (4-6 fav); 3, Golden Mac (25-1), 4 nan, 1%1, 20%, S Sportorg Tote: £4.40 DF, £2.40, CSF, £4.88, OF. 2.40. CSF. \$4.60.
4.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Ameza (E Murphy, 9-1): 2, Pedaltothemetel (4-1 fav) 3, Relative Chance (33-1) 12 ran 3, 21 Lady Hemies Total: 510 80; £2.80, £1.80, £18.60. DF: £26.50. Tho: £575 00, CSF. £44 75. Vicast. £1078.48.

Placepot £1,191.70. Quadpot £50.30. Market Rasen Going: good, good to soft in places Comp. goods good at Soft pegas 1.40 (2m 11110yd hdfe) 1, Effe Justice (G Bradley, 13-2), 2, Hot Breeze (5-1); 3, Sharmoor (6-1) Troy's Dream 4-1 lav 12 ran 5i, 8 N Tribler, Tote 128.80; 52.20, 52.00, 52.30, DF. 513.80 Tro; 563 (0, 557) 541 65, Tricast 5200.89, Bought in 8 0000ers

2.10 (2m Si 110)rd hole) 1. Exempler (R Guest, 10-1); 2. Tristan's Cornet (8-1); 3. Bernara Cove (11-1). Berney's Gift 4-1 fav. 11 ran. 3½, 341 Mrs S Smith. Tole. 19.00; 2.30. £2.10, £4.10. DF. £19.60. Tris-£155.60 (par won: pool of £43.84 carried forward to 4.00 at Ayr today). CSF: £34.25. Tricast £336.39.

245 (2rt 1f 110yd ch) 1. Crafty Chaptain (D McCain, 11-11, 2, Tough Dsal (13-2); 3. Charteriorhardware (11-1) Boston Rover 5-2 tev. 8 ran. 3%, 1%, D McCain Tote-£18-90, 53.70, £2.50, £3.20, DF; £35.00. CSF; £74 12 Tricast; £743 61.

RACELINE

SANDOWN 101 201 CHEPSTOW 102 202

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MORNING SINE IDEA INC. TIMEFORM 368

103 | 203

3.50 (2m 1f 1.10yd hdle) 1. Tonys Gift (D Bridgweiter, 5-4 fav); 2. Beau Matelot (8-1); 3. Ramsdens (5-1), 12 ran, 41, 71. M Pipe. Tote: £2.30: £1.50, £2.00, £1.40, DF £8.50, Trio: £8.80, CSF: £12.53. 4.20 (3m 1f ch) 1, Percy Thrower (Mr M Rimel, 13-8 lav); 2, Another Coral (7-4); 3, Catchapenny (5-1), 6 ran, NR: Ellerton H8. 181, 114 N Twiston-Davies, Totar 52.20; £1.30, £1.30 DF: £2.10, CSF: £5.02 4.50 (1m 5f 110yd flat race) 1, Lucia Forte (A Thomton, 9-2); 2, Nishamira (7-1), 3. Bite Bilss (9-2), 18 ran, 3, 6f K Bailey Tote: £5.80; £2.10, £3.40, £2.00, DF-£42.20, Trio: £17.30 CSF: £44.87 Jackpot: not won (pool of \$27,859.85 carried forward to Sandown Park today). Placepot: \$295.10. Quadoot: \$30,00

Going: good to firm 1.50 (2m hdie) 1, Uk Hyglene (P Niven. 4-1); 2, Singing Sand (3-1); 3, The Stitcher (3-1) Citiadino 9-4 fav. 14 ran. 41, 11, M Hammond, Tote: £10 30, £2.20, £1.10. £2.20, DF £15.80 Thos: £20 10 CSF £16 68

Ayr

2.55 (3m 110yd hole) 1, Sierra Macirona (Mr A Parker, 5-1), 2, Celtic Breeze (5-1) Erzadjan 1-3 tav (ur) 3 ran 2, Mrs A Switzbank, Tote: £5.10 DF: £4.10 CSF £17.29.

3.30 (2m 4l ch) 1. Deep Decision (R Supple, 7-4 lav. Thunderer's nap); 2. One For The Pot (9-2), 3. Charming Gale (6-1). 5 ran NP: Highlandman, 18, 7, P Cheesbrough, Tota: 52.10, £1.40, £2.00, DF: £5.70, CSF: £8.13. 4.00 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Parfebiz (l4r A Robson, 4-1), 2, Revillar's Glory (5-1); 3, Sild Anok (12-1), Risky Des 11-10 lav (un), 8 ran 1/sl, 111 A Wight Tote £5.30; £1.60, £1.60, £7.60, DF: £15.60 CSF £22.05.

4.30 (2m hdie) 1, Sherkashka (L Wyer, 5-1); 2, Stash The Cash (7-2), 3, Grandman (8-1), Sarmatian 15-8 (av. 7 an. 4, 6, 17 Easterby, Toter 25-90; £2.40, £2.50, DF 29.80, CSF: £20.97.



#### another Tim Thomson Jonestrained runner. Keel Row has been showing his best form run two solid races at Notover half-a-mile further, but BENGIE:STUMBER THUNDERER 2.30 Seachange 1.30 King Lucifer 3.00 Hamilton Silk 3.35 BELLS LIFE (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR IN LINE RACECARD. 101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF.F.G.S) (Mrs. D Robinson) B Half 12-0 .....

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — Indl. P — polled up. U — unsented note B — brought down S — sipped up. R — nutured D — form to state the second F — firm, good to disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outlog. F if itst, (B — blisters, V — visor, H — heavy). Owner to bracksts. Trainer. Age and distance winner CD — course and distance. Proate Handicapper's rating. GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

1.00 WEATHERBYS LEASING DIRECTORY HANDICAP HURBLE (£5,150: 2m 4f 110yd) (8 runners) .ong Pandicap: Raggerly 9-11. BETTING: 5-2 Manuer's Ar., 3-1 Selatan, 4-1 Silver Standard, 8-1 Golden Arrow, 8-1 Glabsdale, 18-1 others. 1985: Willit IMPUNITY 6-10-8 C Llewellyn (5-2) N Transton-Davies 7 ran

FORM FOCUS GOLDEN ARROW 321 9th to Erobule in Ingritical hundle at Kempton (2m 51, good to soft). 60 MARY 731 9th to Thistography Twoce in Inandicap hundle at Compassion (2m 41 10byd, soft). MARRINER'S ARR 1941 2nd to Oursel in Inandicap hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 41 hundle at Haydood, (2m 51 
1.30 BET WITH THE TOTE HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (Final: £13,615; 3m) (7 nunners) 1-22113 (3NG LUCRERI 28 (C.G.S.) (1 West) D Natiobion 7-12-0 R. Johnson (3)
3242-11 MAJOR BELL 28 (F.G.S.) (1 Modernies) A Williams 8-11-4 M Moderny
31-2121 SSTER STEPHANE 8 (6.S.) (A Modernies Press) G McCourt 7-11-4 R. Derevoudy
428/22P BOND JRR 24 (G.S.) (P Basteri P Michalis 7-11-1 A. P McCoy
P84-332 BALLY CLOVER 21 (G.S.) (J Williams) Miss V Williams 9-10-4 R. Dovis
72115 (CHURCH LAW 22 (6) (Albs. 1 Taylor) Miss I Taylor 9-10-0 R. Supple
G3-0533 BENDOR MARK 11 (C Courage) M Williamson 7-10-0 P Crowley (7) Long handican: Bendor Wart 9-7 BETTRIG: 7-4 Seter Stephenile, 11-4 King Lucher, Major Bell, 5-1 Bond Jm; 16-1 Bally Clover, 20-1 Church Law, 25-1 Bendor Mark. 1995: A # C EXPRESS 7-10-10 T Jenks (9-1) J King 10 ran

FORM FOCUS NMS LUCIPER 7/41 3rd of 12 to River Lossie m novice classe at Newborny (3m. good to soft). MAJOR SELL beating Golden Fridde short-read in charge the soft soft soft short-read in charge at Arr (2m. 44, good). SISTER 
STEPHANE beat Myblackhonn a distance in novice class at Western Abbot (2m. 51 10pd, beary) good). CHURCH LAW 
Set Sto to Mr Mulligan un movice class at Westerby 
Grant 10pd, good to soft on penultimate start. 
Selection: SISTER STEPHANE COURSE SPECIALISTS

SETTING: 7-4 Backgammon, 3-1 Around The Sale, 6-1 Ambleside, 8-1 Teinein, 12-1 Coestimiento, 14-1 Lake Karlon, Lond Rootile, 16-1 miners. 1995: CHALLENGER OU LUC 11-5 R Duromody (4-1) M Pipe 9 pm FORM FOCUS AMBLESIDE best Costelets 31/4 in 11-runner novlos hurdle over course and distance (soft)
AROUND THE GALE best interragic 15 in 7runner crosses burdle at Waston Abbot (2m. 11.
httmy). BACKGAMMON besting Beautronit 3 in
novice hurdle at Universite (2m. good)
DWHTTIMEBITO 19 3rd of 7 to Samply Dashing in
novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good).
LAKE KARBAN 36 776 of 15 in 58 fisher is Grade 2
Persian War Novice Hurdle here (2m 4f 110yd, 2.30 LLANGIBBY NOVICES CHASE (£2,915: 2m 3f 110yd) (8 numers) 12/315U CASTLE COURT 8 (S) (Mrs D Thompson) N Esselen 8-11-9. C Linwellyn (S) SCIU12 PETE THE PARSON 10 (C.S) (N Shurt) J Old 7-11-9. J Disborne 98 SPUTUS EMPAU MSS 8 (E.S) (Abs J Bernett) N Esselen 8-11-4. J Disborne 98 SPUTUS EMPAU MSS 8 (E.S.) (Abs J Bernett) N Essen 9-11-4. J Disborne 93 85 11-1-4 W MARN MAN 44 (F.S.) (Mrs 5 N Bernett) N Miss S Messer-Semels 8-11-2 A Thompson P-1 PHAEDAR 108 (Capt E Etherote-Heathcoard P Habbs 6-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR12+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Wilderson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M Willerson 7-11-2 ... G Tormey (3) — CR30+1 SEACHWINE 9 (G.S) (A Senni) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (A SENNI) M WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (G.S) (A SENNI) M W WILLIAM 9 (G.S) (G.S) (G.S) (G.S) (G.S) (G SETTING: 9-4 Seachange. 3-1 Dark Stranger. 4-) Castle Court, 5-1 Pete The Parson, 6-1 My Main Men. 16-7 Emed Miss. 20-1 others 1895: SPUFFINGTON 7-11-70 E Marphy (4-5 lav) J Gillard 3 ran 3.00 CURRE JUVENILE HOVICES HANDICAP HUHDLE (4-Y-0: £3,556; 2m 110yd) (8 runners) BETTING: 9-4 Hamilton Sult, 7-2 Fanlastic Fleet, 4-1 Swivel, 8-1 Forestal, 8-1 Gmenspan, 10-1 other: 1995: KARLOE KA 4-10-8 D Merecon (8-1) R Dictio 7 to 3.35 COTSWOLD VALE CHASE (Handicap: £3,462: 2m 3f 110yd) (7 nanners) BETTING: 9-4 Bets Life, 11-4 Please Spacsage, 4-1 James The First, 8-1 Kentish Piper, Newada Gold, 10-1 Raillel, 12-1 Kings Cherry

1996; KENTISH PRPER 10-11-11 C Literathyn (Evens fav) N Gaseine 3 nan PACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Carlisle (first race, 2.10), Plumpton (2.20), Taunton (2.00) WEDNESDAY: Chetrenham (C4, 2,15), Huntingdon (2,40), Newton Abbot (2,00). THURSDAY: Chetrenham (C4, 215), Hexham (2.00), Lingfield Park (AW, 2.30). FRIDAY: Fakenham (2.10), Folkestone (2.00), Wolverhampton (AW, 2.20). SATURDAY: Hereford (2.20), Lingfield Park (2.25), Newcastle (2.15), Uttoweter (2.00), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00). Flet meetings in bold

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Wales restore Jenkins at stand-off

## Richards injury could disrupt English stability

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND, having ridden out the verbal and disciplinary storms that followed their victory over Scotland last weekend, will keep the same crew for their triple-crown encounter with Ireland at Twickenham next Saturday. However, Wales, holed below the waterline during this sea-son's five nations' championship, take on three fresh players for the meeting with France in Cardiff.

England's reaction has been entirely predictable. They came away from Murrayfield with the result they sought. achieved in obvious style, and once Jason Leonard had been cleared of foul play by an independent arbiter on Wednesday, the likelihood of change was minimal.

Even so, it is the first time in eight internationals that Engnd have selected the same XV in successive games. Circumstances have conspired against continuity, but one of the criticisms of the management this season has been the unsettled back row that now, with the restoration of Dean Richards, appears a more

Sadly, there remains doubt whether Richards will have recovered from the knee injury, sustained against the Scots, in time to play. The initial diagnosis was a mini-



CHAMPIONSHIP

mum recovery period of four weeks, but the No 8 has been receiving daily treatment, his desire to retain the place denied him earlier this season is intense and, where Richards is concerned, his capacity for the game should never be under-estimated.

He will join England at Richmond this weekend in their preparations for the meeting with Ireland, though his input will be verbal rather than physical. England's medical team will assess his condition, but his prospects of being fit to train by the time the squad comes together again on Wednesday are limited.

Such was his impact on the Calcutta Cup match that the effects of his loss would be severe, even though England's self-confidence should have soared. Not only did they deny Scotland a grand slam, they put themselves in line to win the triple crown and challenge for the championship.

### Wandering Wasps so happy to be home

By David Hands

MEMBERS of Wasps will enjoy the rare sight of competitive rugby at Sudbury today. Thanks to a combination of away cup draws, bad weather and the structured season, it is four months since Wasps have played a significant gene at home. Little wonder that the club president, Bill Treadwell, has felt obliged to circulate members with a letter of encouragement.

There will be a club council on March 27 when details on the "positive restructuring of "Wasps" are due to be announced, including the possibility of further new signings to follow that of the former Wales lock, Gien Llewellyn. In the meantime, a XV weakened by the absence on England squad duty of Lawrence Dallaglio and injuries to Matt Greenwood and Peter Scrivener must try to avenge the early-season defeat by Harlequins in the only first-division match of the Courage Clubs

Championship. Jim Staples, Ireland's cap-

tain until suffering concussion against France last month, returns to action for Harlequins and Nick Walshe is preferred at scrum half to Rob Kitchen. Wasps bring Colin Bickle into their second row and call up Richard Pool-Jones at flanker, with Nick Greenstock bidding to refurbish his career at centre.

For the second division match at Bedford. Newcastle include the Scottish internationals Doddie Weir and Gary Armstrong for their league debuts.

Rob Andrew has agreed to play in the XV being raised by Bob Dwyer, the former Australia coach, to play Leicester in the Sanyo challenge match at Twickenham on April 21. ☐ Gavin Hastings could be making his final appearance for Watsonians in today's Tennents 1556 Cup thirdround tie against Edinburgh Academicals. The former Scotland captain is to play American football for Scottish Claymores this summer.

struggling to avoid a second successive whitewash. For all the plaudits their open play has attracted, they have been unable to win matches and yesterday Kevin Bowring, the coach, bit the bullet and restored Neil Jenkins to the side to play France next Saturday.

Jenkins resumes at stand-off half ahead of Arwel Thom-as. Ironically, Jonathan Davies, widely tipped for a return to international rugby when he joined Cardiff from rugby league last year, makes a rare Heineken League appearance at stand-off against Ebbw Vale today.

Thomas was wretchedly out of sorts during the 30-17 defeat by Ireland last weekend. His time will come again, but now may be the time for the pragmatism — and points-scoring ability — of Jenkins.

He is joined by Gareth Thomas and Christian Load-er, who displace Wayne Proc-tor and Andrew Lewis at left wing and loose-head prop respectively. Gareth Thomas, capped five times since making his debut against Japan during last summer's World Cup, takes nothing away from the youth of the Welsh side. Still only 21, he offers greater physical presence than Proctor in a game where victory for France is virtually certain to make them champions, on points difference.

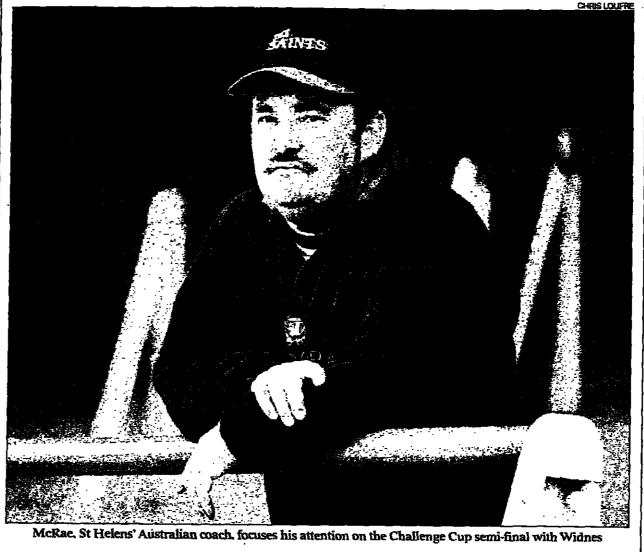
But for injury, Jenkins, Gareth Thomas and Loader might have been fixtures all season. Loader. 22, made a brave debut against South Africa in Johannesburg last September and appeared against Fiji, but injury removed him from contention and this will be his first championship match.

Adding to the complexities the Welsh season, their referees are on the verge of strike action. They seek an increase from 26p to 40p a mile on their travelling expenses and were due to meet Glanmor Griffiths, the Welsh Rugby Union treasurer, last night, with the threat of a boycott hanging over the Swalec Cup quarter-finals on March 23.

ENGLAND v Ireland) M.J.Catt (Bath); J.M. Sleightholme (Bath), W.D. C. Carlong (Harlequins, captert), J.C. Guscott (Bath), R. Underwood (Leicester/RAF); P.J. Grayson (Northampton), M.J.S. Dawson (Northampton); G.C. Rowmtree (Leicester), M.P. Regan (Bristol), J. Leonard (Hafrequins), B.B. Clarke (Bath), M.O. Johnson (Leicester), G.S. Archer (Bristol/Army), L.B. N. Dallaglio (Wasps), D. Richards (Leicester), Replacements; J.E. B. Callared (Sath), P.R. de Giarwille (Bath), K.P.P. Bracken (Bristol), V.E. Unogu (Beth), R.G. R. Dawe (Beth), T.A.K. Rocher (Northampton/Army). E Ubogu (Balti), R G R Dawe (Barti), T A K Rodoer (Northampton/Army).

WALES (\* France) W J L Thomas (Lancili), I C Evans (Llenelli), L 8 Davies (Neath), N G Davies (Lenelli), C Thomas (Bndyend), N R Jenkins (Portypridd), R Howfey (Bridgend); C Loader (Svantsea), J M Humphreys (Cardift, captari), J D Davies (Neath), E W Lews (Cardiff), G D Llewellyn (Neath), D Jones (Cardiff), G O Llewellyn (Neath), H T Taylor (Cardiff), R Jones (Llanell), A T Moore (Cardiff), S Williams (Neath), L Mustoe (Cardiff), G R Jenkins (Swantsea)

THUNDERER



### No time like the present for McRae

oothsayers at St Helens point to the famous upset by Widnes in the 1930 rugby league Challenge Cup final as if that result will have a bearing on the semifinal at Wigan today. As an Australian uninhibited by history and ancient parochial rivalries, Shaun McRae is concerned only with the present.

"People have described Widnes to me as a bad draw, because it's a local derby," the St Helens coach said. "Why is it, too, that whoever you play, everyone wants to give you statistics for the last 100 years? Is it an English

McRae arrived six weeks ago in midwinter, from an Australian summer, to the odd moan about the switch to a March-September season. "It snowed for a week, my first game was postponed and there are still people wanting to stand in the cold to watch rugby," he said.

At 36, he does not mince his

Christopher Irvine on a coach concerned with the immediate challenge for St Helens

words. Nor did St Helens in dismissing Eric Hughes, four days after the side's gallant submission to Wigan in the submission to Wigan in the Regal Trophy final, and getting their man. Wigan's monopoly on silverware was Hughes's misfortune. McRae's good fortune became apparent within days of arriving at Knowsley Road from Canberra with Wigan's defeat at Salfard

defeat at Salford.

So far. St Helens have taken advantage, but, a step away from Wembley, McRae dismisses fanciful notions. They have been booking London hotels when all we've got is a sniff of the final. People keep talking about the Challenge Cup's enormity and that's sinking in, but all a semi-final is is the next

Helens have been on the brink many times before, only to suffer a fall. However, a Challenge Cup triumph 20 years after the last one might be the catalyst for a young and talented team to present a realistic challenge in the forthcoming European Super

League.
The potential at St Helens was why McRae left the job of assistant coach at Canberra. He has made the comparison between the Canberra side of the Eighties and St Helens today, of copious at-tacking skills and often bungling defence. "You never take away innate flair, it's the basis of all top sides, but why score 50 points and let in 35?

inherited what David Howes, the St Helens chief executive. described as a "five-year team", with an average age of 23. In Bobbie Goulding, Paul Newlove and Chris Joynt he has, arguably, the best scrum half, centre and back-row forward in the British game, allied to promising young players like Steve Prescott and Keiron Cunningham.

benefits of hard work, McRae

Up against a wily old Wembley bird in Doug Laughton, McRae is confi-dent, yet mindful of the greater experience available to the Widnes coach. Terrace historians have informed McRae that, since the final 66 years ago. St Helens have not lost to Widnes in the competition; it is a record McRae is at pains to play down.

ST HELENS: 5 Prescott: A Hume, 5 Gibbs, P Newtone, A Sulfivan, K Hammond, R Goulding, A Paetlin, k Curningham, A Leatham, C Joynt, 5 Baoth A Northey WIDNES: S Spruce, J Develous, M Pechey, D Winghi, A Thomiley, C Tyrar, 5 Cooper; L Makin, P Gartland, L Hansen, P Hume, P Myler, 5 McCurne
Reference II Smith (Characteristics)

#### Against certain sides, you have to play more of a round." The message has been drilled into his players all percentage game. A firm believer in the

By EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT

AFTER a close eleven-race contest with Lawrie Smith, Glyn Charles has secured his place in the Star class in the British Olympic team. Charles, who had to overcome the psychological hurdle of having lost to Smith in Olympic trials twice before, emerged a convincing winner by a 36-point margin at the Bacardi Cup in Miami yesterday.

The Stars, in which Britain won gold in 1988, was the last class to hold trials in a series that began at the Olympic Classes Regatta, also in Miami, in January and

concluded with the Bacardi series. While Smith continued to produce finishes in the teens and early twenties — as both men had done in January - Charles moved up a gear with three top ten finishes and a twelfth in the five races. His superior performance was largely due to his handling the strongish conditions on Biscayne Bay better than Smith, though he also prevailed during a race in light

Charles ends long wait to claim crown

Charles, a former Laser national champion, spoke of his satisfaction at finally beating his old rival. "I'm relieved," he said. "We've always been the underdog and we've finally put the thing to rest." He said his improved performance was not due to any change in sailing tactics, but to a more concentrated mental approach, an area he has been working on with Frank Dick, the former national director of coaching in athletics.

We seemed to be going faster, but we didn't set the boat up particularly differently. We just got our minds together. We kept ourselves to ourselves and got focused on it." he said. Charles confident that he can now win a medal in Savannah in July. He ended the Bacardi in seventh place in an 80-strong fleet that included most of the best in the world. Smith finished in 22nd place.

### Whitaker displays fine form in first day victory

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN DORTMUND

JOHN WHITAKER underlined his form for the Volvo World Cup show jumping qualifier when he and his Olympic contender, Welham, relegated the European champions, Peter Charles and La ina, to second place by 0.38sec in the WDR Prize, the main event on the opening day of the Dortmund International Show here yesterday.

The win came after a 14horse jump-off involving many of Europe's leading partnerships. Welham, a 16-year-old gelding owned by Keeley Durham, on which Whitaker won a team silver medal at the European championship last year and finished fifth individually, jumped effortlessly around the twisting six-fence jump-off course to finish in 30.48sec. Charles went as fast as he dared, but could not match Whitaker's superbly-judged round.

The two other Britons in the 47-strong class - Geoff Billington, who had finished second on Solitaire in the opening class, and James Fisher, on Pinon Voici — failed to reach the jump-off, incur-ring eight and 16.50 faults

respectively. Earlier, Billington gave his Olympic contender, It's Otto, his first outing since the Berlin World Cup in November and was rewarded with a stylish clear round. "He felt fantastic," Billington said.

Michael Bullman, the chairman of the British selectors, announced his committee's policy for the Atlanta Olympic Games soon after arriving here yesterday. Nick Skelton, John Whitaker and Michael Whitaker are virtually assured of their team places, providing that their horses remain sound. Twelve riders will be "tried out" for the fourth place in three separate foreign tours from April to early June.

These include Robert Smith. who heads the five selected for the Jerez, Ovieda and La Baule shows. Billington, Di Lampard and William Funnell - three leading contenders for the fourth place - will go to the Hickstead and St Gallen Nations' Cup meetings with the two Whitakers. Peter Murphy, Tim Stockdale, James Fisher and Kelly Brown will join Skelton at the Madrid, Lisbon and Barcelona shows. By then, we should have selected the four," Bullman said yesterday. He intends to announce the teams in mid-June. The horses travel on July 8 to Atlanta, where the first 48

hours will be spent in compulsory quarantine at the airport. RESULTS: WDR Proze: 1, Welham IJ Whitaker, GB; 0 laufrs in 30 48sec 2: La Ind (P Charles, Ire) 0 in 30 86; 3 Vising Du Tiland (H Godigmon Fr) 0 in 32 56 DER Proze: 1, Gern Stone (M Baryard, Swe) 0 in 52 72; 2, Soldame IG Ballington, GB; 0 in 52 98; 3, Franciska (C-0 Nagel, Ger) 0 in 53.78

### Harding sets sights on Festival glory

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

AMATEURS with mounts at next week's Cheltenham Festival are as keen to steer clear of injury as their professional counterparts. That does not stop them riding at point-topoints this weekend but they will avoid unsafe jumpers. Such issues are not a prob-

lem for the Honourable Dido Harding, who is not in action today. A one-horse ownerrider whose win tally reads two under Rules and seven in point-to-points, her name does not spring to mind when owners are casting around for spare jockeys. Yet on Thursday at Chelten-

ham Harding has a ride in the Cheltenham Foxhunters' Chase, and in Cool Dawn parmers a horse some would say is a banker. The question is whether Cool Dawn's class outweighs the inexperience of his rider.

While most top amateurs work with horses Harding thinks about holidays. As marketing director for Thom-



Harding: inexperienced

daily schedule involves jostling with commuters on the train to Peterborough. Riding is limited to weekends in Dorset, where Robert Alner trains Cool Dawn. "Robert tells me to jog on the

as Cook, the travel agents, her

train so I can claim I run to Peterborough every day," she said. Sessions on a rowing machine at her Covent Garden flat are not so fanciful. Three years ago Harding

asked Alner to look for a safe ladies point-to-pointer. Cool Dawn was bought in an Irish pub, his talents surpassing his owner's hopes while stretching her arms in races. "He has so much speed that

for 80 per cent of the race you are sitting still, "Harding said. "I don't want to get in a headto-head battle with horses like Double Silk but he does settle if there is a strong pace."

Polly Curling, resuming after a heavy fall last weekend, rides at the Avon Vale today and South Dorset tomorrow while Alison Dare, level with Curling on eight wins in the national women's table, visits the North Ledbury today and the Staff College tomorrow.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Avon Vale, Barbury Casile, 2m north of Mariborough, first rator, 1 00): Brecon, Llarinynach, 3m SE of Brecon (12 00), Cottesmore, Garmene, Garmene, Garmene, Garmene, Casile of Caristand Farmers, Dalston, 4m S of Caristand Farmers, Dalston, 4m S of Caristand Farmers, Dalston, 4m S of Caristand (12 30); Denwend, Cham Park, 6m SW of Scattorough (12 00), Easter, High Easter, 8m NW of Chelmolord (12 30); North Ledbury, Upton-on-Severn, 6m S of Worldstein (12 00), Oekldey, Newton, Bornswold, 3m SE of Rushden (12 00), Silverton, Haldon, on Exter NH course (12 00), S East Club, Chendy, 12m E of Mardstone (1 00). Tanalisede, Eyton-on-Severn, 7m SE of Strawsbury (12 30); TOMORRIOW Sall College & HMA Drag, Tuesoldown, 3m W of Aldershot (12 00); South Dorset, Millborne 5t Andrew, on A354 SIV of Elandleyd (1 00).

## AYR

1.45 Royal Expression. 2.15 Montrave. 2.50 Dancing Dove. 3.25 One For The Pot. 4.00 Meadowburn. 4.30 Golden Fiddle. 5.00 Galen. Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.45 FASSAN. GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

.45 CHAIGIE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,884: 2m) (9 runners) 1 1224 ROYAL DUPRESSION 32F (D.F. Mr. M Revelop 11-5. P Novem 2 6533 SHIBMING EDGE 15 (D.F.) I Extently 11-5. L Wyer 3 006 DON'T PURSET CLARIES 8 G Moore 10-12. J Callaghtan 4 0 FANADIN'R 105 W Storey 10-12. R McGrath (7) 5 FF FASSAN 15 M Hamstond 10-12. R McGrath (7) 6 DOSS TELIAVY ATTCH 14 J Golder 10-12. G Cahill (5) 7 0334 WHITASE TATTINISEEN 14 T Dyes 10-12. B Storey 8 0 LATCH KEY LADY 10 R Woodhouse 10-7 D J Kovenach (6) 9 SEENTHELIGHT 59F D McRay 10-7 D J McRay and 1 Royal Empression 7-3 Shaking Form 6-1 Tanada W Sabob 8-1 1-44 6-4 Fassan, 3-1 Royal Expression, 7-2 Shining Edge, 6-1 Teeply March, 8-1 Donl Forget Curls, 10-1 Vintage Tarllinger, 12-1 others

2.15 JOHN BROWN MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE (£3,223: 2m) (5) 5-4 Monitare 3-1 Our Man Man 5-1 Rebet King, Corsino Racer, 16-1 Grand & Out.

2.50 AYRSHIRE YEOMANRY CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,976: 2m 41) (8)

7-4 Customer No. 3-1 Denoing Dove, 6-1 Montes Hyde, Cont Luke, 7-1 Bend Sable, 8-1 Sunday News Witcho, 14-7 others.

3.25 YULMIDAS TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE

8-4 Specie Mo. 9-4 One For The Pol., 5-2 Beldine, 6-1 Postine Action, 25-1 Furmy Did Game

4.00 ROSEMOUNT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,763: 2m 6l) (16)

1 4121 BLUE CHARMI 39 (F) Mrs 5 Bradhurine 6-12-0 A Wall (7)
2 9F BRIMAON 113 1 Dyer 5-12-0 A Linton (7)
3 3052 IZA 14 (6) W Storry 5-11-7 B McGrath (7)
4 220 SHUMARA'S WAY 8 P Montants 5-11-7 B C Carlel (8)
5 0003 PHARARIE 10 (F) R Woodfootes 6-11-4 D J Kavenogh (5)
6 0312 MEADOWNEARN 11 (F) W Reed 6-10-10 T Reed
7 0001 SEDWCTA 54 (6) Mrs Meredey 4-10-10 P Reven
8 -050 CRARGE RAMBERT 28 0 Robertson 7-10-8 J Burke
9 0002 SEVER SLEEVE 14 (B) M Harmgood 4-10-5 L Wyer
10 R066 FRE TUNG 19 Mrs 5 Brachurine 6-10-5 A Doublin
11 4450 TON'TS FEEL MRS 56 (F) T Dyer 8-10-5 B Storie
12 PP40 TRESPASSER 11 (B) JJ O'Nell 7-10-3 A Brache (3)
13 2534 BLOOMENG SPRING 52 Mrs D Thorson 7-10-3 L O'Hers
14 0003 ANASTASIA WINDSOR 19 (V) D Bartal 5-10-0 S Taylor (7)
15 0060 MEADOWNECK 28 W YOUNG 7-10-0 H Murphy (7)
16 054 STLVAN CELEBRATION 25 J Goldes 5-10-0 D Parlor (3)
7-2 Sachota, 9-2 Bur Charm, 6-1 Meadowbern, Shossac's Way, 8-1 Izza, Shrar

4.30 HUGH BARCLAY CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£2,872: 3m 11), (4) 4-5 Golden Fixidio 5-2 Vavasa, 4-1 Galla Weller, 12-1 Island Gale

5.00 LEVY BOARD STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,544: 2m) (13)

9-4 Galen, 5-1 Bosson Man, 6-1 Storm Call, 7-1 Just Like Ded, 10-1 Sther Mins. 14-1 Lord Lamb, Whatschouman. 16-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANCERS: Mrs M Raveley, 40 winners from 141 namers, 28 4%; R Allan, 3 horn 11, 27.3%; G Richards, 47 from 199, 23.6%; J J O'Naid. 18 from 88, 20.5%; G M Moore, 12 from 69, 17.4%, M Hammond, 3 JOCKEYS: P Miven, 35 witners from 137 rides, 25.5%, A Roche, 8 from 34, 21.5%, 6 Cahill, 6 from 29, 20.7%, A Dobbon, 23 from 116. 19.8%; B Storey, 23 from 166, 13.9%; L Wyer, 5 from 36, 13.9%; J Callagham, 9 from 74, 12.2%.

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Ayr. 3.25 Funny Old Game. Chepstow: 2.00 Beyond The Stars 3.00 Swivel. Southwell: 3.15 Margi Boo. 4.50 Elfin Queen.

### CHELTENHAM ACCEPTORS

WEDNESDAY: 2.50 QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE (Grade I. 280,925 Zm) (8 exceptors)
Coulson (O Shenwood) Dancing Paddy (K Curryngharn-Brown), Klarron Davis (A Moore, Ire), Mann's Lamp (D Micholson), Sound Man (E O'Gady ke), Stong Platmum (P Burke Ire). Travado (N Henderson) Vilving Flagsrip (D Nicholson)

4.05 SUN ALLIANCE CHASE (Grade I-153:223.3m ft) (20 acceptore) Auro Anson (M Carracho). Bethy's Boy (K Balley), Billygoet Gudf (D Nicholson) Cell ft A Day (D Nicholson), Challenger Du Luc (M Pred), Dark Honcy (S Dow), Do Rightly (M Bradstock), Go Ballistic (J O'Shea) Hill Of Tullow (D Nicholson), Johnny Setsside (N Meace, Ire), Linder's Lotto (J White), Major

Rumpus (A Moore, Ire), Minella, Lad (A O'Bhen, Ire), Mr Mulligan (N Chance), Nahinen Lad (Mrs J Priman) Puriters Overhead (P Nichols), River Lossle (C Egarton), St Mellion Fairway (D Nicholson), Steel Mirror (A O'Brien, Ire). Tothewoods (N Tweston-Davies)

[] There are 34 acceptors for the Coral Cup and 18 for the Middle of the Middle of the Coral Cup and 18 for the Middle of the Middle of the Coral Cup.

## SOUTHWELL

1.10 The Lad. 1.40 Quinzii Martin. 2.10 Ilab. 2.40 Heathyards Rock. 3.15 Munaadee. 3.45 Sweet Mate. 4.20 Welsh Melody. 4.50 Seeking Destiny. Our Newmarket Correspondent 3.15 Munaadee. 4.20 Dragonjoy.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.10 marbles handicap (Div I: £3,103: 2m) (9 runners) 

1.40 NOTTINGHAM PRINT FINISHERS HANDICAP (Div I: £3,588: 7f) (9)

2-1 Temperong, 3-1 Title Lad, 4-1 Baher, 5-1 Fox Chaptel, 10-1 Rose Of Glenn, 12-1 Tap On Tootse, 16-7 Selmeston, 20-1 others

| 1204 SQLARE DEAL 8 (CD.6) S Bowning 5-10-0 ... S D Williams 3 | -051 ALL APCLOSEES 17 (D.6) R Hollestraad 4-10-0 F Lynch (7) 5 | 3 (220 CEE-JAV-AY 147 (GDL,6,S) J Bong 9-9 3 ... La Tabboli 2 | 4222 AMESSOME VENTURE 8 (D.5) M Chaptras 6-9-3 D R McDab (2) 7 5 -433 70 NSB-8 28 (9) J PRICH-Myes 5-8-9 ... S Darishi 4 6 (2023 QUINZI MARTIN 8 (CD.6) D Rayon Jones 8-9-9 ... D Wingst (3) 6 (2) AMES 28 (2) F REST 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... S Bandwell B 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N Dyroth 47-10 ... Inca Wands (7) 9 (2) G SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 12 N DYROTH 14 D SWANDALE FLYER 14 D SW 11-4 Square Deal, 7-2 Ali Apologies, 4-1 Cee-Jay-Ay, 5-1 Doma: Markii, 7-1 Amesona Vantum, 8-1 Yo Kiri-B. 10-1 others

2.10 MARBLES HANDICAP (Div II: £3,103: 2m) (8)

. 1 5405 CROSS JALK 19 (F) R Hollershead 4-9-10 \_\_\_ F Lynch (7) 7
2 500- HOWKULA RIVER 64J P Chepple-thjem 4-9-4
R Cody-Buncher (7) 8
3 222- LABS 11J (B.C.G.) J Parkes 6-9-4 \_\_\_\_ G-Barcheal 5
4 -204 CAPTANI MARNARA ADE 37 (C.G.) D Thom 7-9-1 \_\_\_ J Tales A
5 -034 HAHD LOVE 19 (G) J Eyre 4-8-13 \_\_\_ T Williams 8
6 22-0 CAN SHE CAN CAN 29 (F) C Smort 4-8-5 \_\_ J Farnners 2
7 -054 PRANCESS TALLILLAR HIGH W 6 M Numer 5-8-3 \_\_ A Deby (S) 3
8 0336 SWORDKING 8 (F.G.S.) J.L Hards 7-8-0 \_\_\_ N Carleie 1
7-4 Ight, 9-2 Hard Love, 5-7 Howqua River, Cross Talk, 6-1 Captain Marmatade,
8-1 Swordking, 10-1 others.

#### 2.45 CONKERS CLAIMING STAKES (£2,583, 1m 4f) (9)

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1 6-11 HEATHYARDS ROCK 19 (CD,8) R Hollinched 4-9-7. Thres 2 2-3-63 JEBI 11 C Marray 6-9-7. M Tebbut 7 3 -332 PHARLY DANCER 22 (CD,8F,6) W Hards 7-8-11

D R McCaba (3) 6 4 500- RED O'REILLY 275 (V) J Eyre 4-8-7. 5 1030 ADALDALDO 19 (CD,6) J Paries 4-8-5 6 000- BEAUCHEF 159 A Marvin 4-8-5. 7 03-0 CALL ME FLASH 8 Mar P Sy 4-8-5 8 1-25 (SABETIM 28 (D.BF,6) D Chapman 6-8-5 9 -525 AMSTOP 15 (C.BF,6) R Alectural 4-8-3 5-4 Healthyards Rock, 7-2 Anistop, 5-1 Pharty Dancer, 7-1 Jebs, 8-1 Kramelim, 10-1 Adologido, 14-1 others 3.15 EAST MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY (LINCOLN) **MAIDEN STAKES** (£5,468: 1m 3f) (15)

6 Fatdimet (7) 5 Whereouth 1 A Clerk 1 METAL BADGE M Johnston 3-8-5 13 404 EXACTLY 159 J Eve 3-8-0.... 14 33-2 LOS ALAMOS 12 C Thombon 3-8-0 . 15 0-56 MARGE BOO 17 (B) R Juckes 3-8-0 3-7 Los Alamos, 4-1 Meiterréson, 5-1 Chevalier, 6-1 Metal Badge, 7-7 Exactly. 10-7 Muneadee, 12-1 others

3.45 NOTTINGHAM PRINT FINISHERS HANDICAP 1 -521 MY GALLERY 12 (CD,G,S) A feeley 5-9-10

1 -SC1 MY GALLERY 12 (CD.6.S) A Balay 5-9-10
Angela Selfmore (7) 2
D-01 MCKELLAR 7 (D.6) T Barron 7-9-5 Angela Selfmore (7) 2
3 -112 SWEET MANE 26 (BJCD.8F.6) S Bowng 4-9-4 C Teague (5) 6
524- FARRELAME 15-5 Alants 4-9-1 JTME 7
5 SORZ DISSENTOR 12 (V.C.BF.6.J Glovet 48-9- 6 Canter 8
6 5432 SOCIETY GRIL 12 (D.F) C Thoritom 3-8-4 D McKesom 3
7 00-0 CLASSIC VICTORY 7 (F) R Hams 3-9-3 D Balasta 1
8 524- MADONNA DA ROSSI 147 M Dods 3-7-12. L Charmock 4 11-4 My Gallery, 3-1 Monetilar 7-2 Sweet Malle, 6-1 Fairetaine, 7-1 Dissentor, 8-1 Society Grd, 10-1 others.

4.20 SOUTHWELL SELLING SERIES FINAL (Handicap: 3-Y-0; £4,026: 1m) (8)

3-1 Dragonjoy, 7-2 Welsh Melody, 4-1 Eflyette, 9-2 People Direct, 6-1 Sporting Familian, 7-1 Bumblehoot, 18-1 others

4.50 SKITTLES HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £2,713: 6f) (15) 4-JU SKITTLES HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2.713: 6f) (15)

1 3231 ENREAL HAVEN 7 (6) T Reuphon 9-12. T Ashby (7) 15

2 00-0 KINS OF PEACE 12 (8) M W Extenty 9-7. 6 Parlon (5) 1

3 32-0 LADY ECLAT 54 (8,D,BF,G) J Biove 9-6. 5 D Williams 5

4 0-31 CDASTGUARDS HERO 33 (62.6) M Usite 9-4. M Wighten 7

5 05-0 LAD PECCA 38 (0.6) Ms. J Crae 9-2. Date 6ibson 12

6 3110 SESONE DESTRIY 22 (62.6) M Chaptons 9-1 C Munckey (7) 11

7 0515 MSS OFFSET 7 (8,CD,BF,G.S) M Joinston 9-0 T Williams 13

8 000- MATEMAR 158 (8) S Bowing 8-11. C Teague (5) 14

9 0243 MCTORA SOUN 15 Pelacting 8-11. F Lynch (7) 9

10 035- PERGAL 25 Ronald Thompson 8-11. A Daty (5) 4

11 5646 ELFH QUEEK 10 (8) J I Harts 8-11. M Fenton 8

12 3-00 TICKA TICKA TURBOG 33 (8,CD,G) 8 Murcay 8-10 T Williams 2

13 2165 PRINCIPAL BOY 17 (C.C) T Enterington 8-9 G Carter 5

14 0644 MIGEN 28 J Risch-Hyrs 8-6 . D Williams 3

1- 045 MAYER STAR 25 Mes M Macadey 7-11 N Adams 10

9-2 Seeking Destany, 6-1 General Heven, Principal Boy 7-1 Coastguards Hero, 8-1 9-2 Seeining Destroy, 6-1 General Heven, Principal Boy 7-1 Coastgoards Hero, 8-1 Mess Ottset, 10-1 Lady Ectal, 12-1 Victoria Siono, 14-1 others

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** 

TRAINERS: J Payne, 4 womers from 13 runners, 30.8%; R Akelurst, 6 from 22, 27.3%. K McAufille, 5 from 22, 22.7%, M Johnston, 25 from 185, 18.9% is Burter, 11 from 68, 16.2% JOCKEYS F Lynch, 10 winners from 53 fides 18 9% T lives, 23 from 128 18 0%, R Cockhaire, 25 from 176, 14 8%, M Tebbudi, 7 from 51, 13,7%, C Teague, 18 from 134, 13 4%

Saturday portrait: Dennis Wise, by Russell Kempson

## Streetwise urchin who can enrich England's quest for respectability

hailed a cab and almost waved goodbye to his career. He had spent an evening discussing busi-ness with Eric Hall, his agent, at Scribes West, the Kensington watering hole owned by Terry Ven-ables, the England coach. When he left, with his girlfriend, Geral-dine Lennon, he had an argument with Gerald Graham, 65, the taxi driver who had refused to take him where he wanted to go. Words were exchanged, Graham was confronted and a glass partition in the cab was broken.

Wise, the Jack-the-lad England and Chelsea midfield player, who will captain his side against Wimbledon, his former club, in an FA Cup quarter-final at Stamford Bridge this afternoon, had over-stepped the mark once too often. His impish, impulsive character had got him into trouble.

Again.

This time, though, it was not the Football Association and its often haphazard disciplinary system that he would stand before. This was serious, a situation that, for once, no amount of mischievous grins could diffuse.

In February last year, Wise was convicted of assault and causing criminal damage; in March, he was sentenced to three months in prison. However, after spending two hours in a cell, he was released on bail pending an appeal. "It was long enough to know what it's like to lose your freedom," he said

In June, he was acquitted, apparently grudgingly. Judge Gerald Butler QC, sitting with two magistrates, told him that their decision had been made "with no enthusiasm". He said that Wise, by his own admission, had behaved in a disgraceful fashion but that the evidence of Graham about the alleged assault could not be relied upon "beyond reasonable

morse and relief, Hall was "monster, monster happy" and the cosy, self-protective world of football quietly got on with business. Case closed. It was, after all, unrelated to matters on the pitch. "Times like that help you appreciate life as well as football," Wise said. "It was a time for sitting down and slowing down, to think about yourself and where you want to go.
I know I could have messed it all
up and nobody wants to get to the end of their career and have to face up to something like that. I've learnt from it and it's a good thing

Incident, embarrassment, humility; recurring themes for the sparky son of a west London publican, Dennis Sr., and his wife, Pam. A 5ft 6in, 10st bundle of energy, living on his nerves and wits. A streetwise urchin, knowing what he wants, when he wants it and how he can get it. And always that innocent, little-boy-lost smile, swiftly disarming the fiercest critic

When you want to win so badly, as he does, you sometimes cross the line'

or angriest opponent. When Southampton offered him a contract at the end of his £25-a-week apprenticeship — an opportunity most aspiring professionals would accept with gratitude - he turned it down. Lawrie McMenemy, the Southampton manager at the time, ran out of patience and showed him the door. "I wasn't treated very well," the young upstart reflected.

Next stop Wimbledon, the Crazy Gang and all their laddish, loutish bravado and bizarre male bonding rituals — hiding the manager's bed in a hotel lift, playing American football in training the day before a league game.

"He was an infectious, lively lad, full of enthusiasm," Dave Bassett, then the Wimbledon manager, said. "He was like one of those annoying flies you want to swat. In one of his first games for us, when

chucked the ball at him and got sent off. Then, in the last minute he missed a penalty. Typical Dennis, always in the thick of

Bassett happily endured the numerous wage demands and transfer requests, the petulant outbursts and off-the-field scrapes, the rough with the smooth — as did Bobby Gould, his successor. In £150 after he had indulged in a spot of illegal panel-beating on the door of a fellow motorist's car. In May 1990, he was fined £200 and banned from driving for a year after he had refused to provide a breath specimen when stopped by

Yet, off road, Wise's spiky effervescence, scurrying endeavours and clench-listed inspiration easily counter-acted his short-fused temperament. They brought him success, too, with an FA Cupwinter's medal in 1988, a first interactional and the state of th international call-up, in Bobby Robson's England squad for the Rous Trophy, and, eventually, a El.6 million move to Chelsea. When I left, it was an emotional moment." he said

However, Stamford Bridge was and, six years on, still is his spiritual home. The lads who roll in from the King's Road hostelries at 2.50pm on a Saturday, to sit where The Shed once stood, can comfortably identify with their 29year-old idol; his Cockney patter, his liking for pie and mash, Mr Bean and Dirty Den, and his contractual commitment to Chelsea until at least 1998.

They even forgave the V-sign he offered them during the heat of battle four years ago. "I was wrong, I shouldn't have done it,"

In his favoured Armani suit and sipping lemonade and lime, he mixes equally easily with the smart set at the Bridge. Status has demanded his progression from Volkswagen Golf to Mercedes to Range Rover and the purchase of a



luxury home in Buckinghamshire, and with the omnipresent Hall at his shoulder - We're like brothers, monster brothers" - he is never short of a favour or

"Dennis is a real terrier, a players' player," Dean Holds-worth, the Wimbledon striker, said. "Whatever happens, he always seems to be enjoying himself. Let's face it, anyone who has been prankster in him. He's as consistent as anyone and when you want to win so badly, as he does, you sometimes cross the line. But you don't captain the likes of Roud Guilit and Mark Hughes without having some great qualities." Should Holdsworth receive a playful mp on the ankles this afternoon, he may revise his reference.

times this season - but he has recovered from a lengthy injury lay-off early last year, which was caused by a torn thigh muscle, and his vibrant form alongside Gullit has captivated many a shrewd

An odd couple, maybe dreadlocks and crew-cut, little and large, chalk and cheese - but it career," Wise said. Enough, perhaps, for Venables For

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to embrace again his cheeky chappy, to add to his total of !! caps, to include him in his squad for the European championship this summer and to tell him to go out there and give 'em heli. "And by the way, Den, I don't want you anywhere near my club. Un-

## Why Atherton should remember

ten on the heart of every birthday with that other famgeneral leading his men into battle. It should be true, too, of every sports captain. A pity, should have said this week that he knows little about the Sri Lanka players confronting him today.

Atherton's first taste of international cricket, and one of his earliest forays into captaincy, was on an England youth tour of Sri Lanka in 1987. Atherton's side would have won the final "Test" match in Galle and with it the series had it not been for a swashbuckling innings from a 17-year-old wicketkeeper.

This diminutive dasher was none other than Romesh Kaluwitharana, the man who has set alight the World Cup with his brilliantly destructive opening partnerships with Sanath Jayasuriya Kalu-

ous blocker, Ian Botham, struck a century in 134 minutes and 84 of his 119 runs Atherton's memory lapse

did little for the chances of Captain Grumpy smiling during the match today. Sporting index, the spread-betting firm. estimated that he would do so only once or twice.

### Missing needle

More harsh words about the playing structure of this World Cup. "The qualifying rounds did not have the necessary needle," Ali Bacher, the managing director of the South Africa cricket board, said yesterday. "The top teams knew that they could afford to lose three games and still get into the quarter-finals." Bacher is to propose that fewer

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teams progress to the knockout stages when the competition is next held, in England in 1999, but said that he also wants more smaller nations taking part when South Africa and Zimbabwe stage the event in 2003.

"I don't think there has been significant growth in the game at the top echelon. World cricket is not growing," said the man who may one day run world cricket. "All that is happening is that the major countries are playing more matches against each other."

### Health warning

A leading Islamabad cardiologist advised heart patients not Pakistan's match with India today. The match could have fatal consequences for some, Nasir Moin warned. The anxiety gets the better of human arteries," he said.

India's players know this well, especially when they are at home to their fiercest rivals. Of the last seven matches, dating back to 1987, India have won only one and that was by virtue of losing fewer wickets when the scores finished level. Nor should they have won that one. When Kapil Dev delivered the final ball, three instead of four fielders were inside the "circle", but the Indian umpire failed to call no-ball, denying Pakistan

### WORLD CUP DETAILS

by 144 rum.
Group B: New Zealand best England by 11 runs; South Altroa beat (IAE by 199 runs; New Zealand beat Holland by 119 runs; England beat Holland by 119 runs; England beat UAE by 8 wtxs; South Altroa beat New Zealand by 5 wtxs; England beat Holland by 95 wtxs; South Altroa beat England by 78 runs; Palestan beat UAE by 9 wtxs; South Altroa beat Palestan beat Holland by 8 wtxs; New Zealand beat UAE by 109 runs; South Altroa beat Palestan by 5 wtxs; UAE beat Holland by 7 wtxs; South Altroa beat Palestan beat England by 160 runs; South Altroa beat Holland by 160 runs; South Altroa CUARTER-PNALS: Today: Sn Lanks v England, Falsakabad (04.00); India v Paki-stan, Bengalore (08.00) Mar 11: South Alnca v West Indias, Karachi (04.00); Australia v New Zaaland, Madras (08.00)

SEMI-FINALS; Mar 13: Felsalabad winner i Bengstore winner, Catcutis (09.00). Mar 14: Karachi winner v Madras winner, Chan-digarh (09.00). FINAL: Mar 17: Lehore

### Sampras injury puts Henman through

TIM HENMAN was awarded a free passage into the semifinals of the men's indoor tennis tournament in Rotterdam yesterday after Pete Sampras, his opponent in the quarter-finals, withdrew through injury. Sampras, the world No I, announced his withdrawal after injuring his ankle during his secondvictory over Jakob Hlasek, of Switzerland.

Sampras slipped and strained tendons during his 7-6, 6-4, 6-4 defeat of Hlasek and put ice on his ankle overnight. However, after consulting an ATP Tour doctor, he limped out of the event and flew home to the United States yesterday. We have to announce that we have to say farewell to Sampras for this tournament," Wim Buitendijk, the tournament director, said. We decided to wait overnight, but this morning his foot was swollen and blue."

It was the third disappointment for the organisers after Boris Becker and Michael Stich, of Germany, pulled out because of illness and injury respectively before the start on Monday Stich has also been ruled out of Germany's Davis Cup fixture in France next month after having a foot

### McGovern inspires as Romford rise again

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL By WALTER GAMMIE

WHEN Bradley Goodwin took over as chairman of Romford four days before the start of the season, the club had "just one player and a debt of EI7". With two months to go, Romford sit on top of the Essex Senior League, six points clear with two matches in hand, have reached the League Cup final, against Burnham Rambiers at Brentwood on April 20, and are still in the Essex Premier Cup and London Floodlit Cup. They have also cleared their debt. A fifth piece of silverware, the Wembley Challenge Cup, that Romford are pursuing marks the delight that a famous former amateur dub are back in business at all. The Challenge Cup, in which Romford hold a 1-0 first-leg lead, is played against Bromley, to whom they lost before 95,000 people in the first FA Amateur Cup final to be held at Wembley in 1949.

Romford, then in the Southern League, folded after selling their ground in 1978 and were revived only four seaons ago. Now they hope to follow other dubs that have been reborn — Oxford City and Bedford Town - into the Icis League and have clinched a three-year deal to use Sungate, the ground of Collier

Row, the Icis League second

division club, from next season. Donal McGovern, who took Collier Row to the third division title last season, has masterminded Romford's rise this season. Among a wideranging trawi for players, McGovern has mearthed two cast-offs from professional clubs — Dean Calcutt, 19, a prolific goalscorer with Tottenham Hotspur's youth team, and Marvin Rufus, 18, a former Leyton Orient youth

"You've got to remember that of 2,400 professionals at Premiership and Endsleigh clubs, 60 per cent have at one time or another been released by clubs as not being good enough," Goodwin said. That includes David Platt, Les Ferdinand, Ian Wright and Peter Beardsley, so there are some good players about."

## Junior ball game sparks pitched battle in courts

lief, sport is part of real life and is therefore subject to the processes of the law. On the other hand, as the noted sports writer. Stephen Potter, pointed out: "Gambits are for use and not for overuse." It is legal week in this column and, naturally, the only logical place to start is the United

A woman has attempted to sue a nine-year-old baseball player in Connecticut. Johnny Lupoli is the Little League pitcher on whom the majesty of the law descended. In baseball, a wide is graphically called a wild pitch": Lupoli let rip with a belter of a wild pitch that struck a female spectator in the face. Jolly unpleasant, true, but being American, she was no doubt utterly delighted. Certainly, she took to the law with alacrity. The case was taken up and it rumbled on. as legal matters always will. "It's been two and half

months of hell for the family," Johnny's Mom, Susan, said. "Johnny hasn't wanted to talk about it. It really has been bothering him." Johnny was at school this week when Judge Ronald Fracasse dismissed the case, ruling that "a child cannot be sued as a sole defendant". No doubt it is legally possible for Johnny to sue the woman in question for causing him distress by trying to sue him.

### Spoilt for choice

Meanwhile, in Australia, two Australian yachtsmen have taken to the law - because they were not selected for the Olympic Games. John Forbes, who won a bronze medal in the Tornado class four years ago in Barcelona, and his partner, Darren Bundock, have asked a court in New South Wales to rule on the validity of the selection Their lawyers argued at a

preliminary hearing this week that the selectors had changed their selection criteria, to the benefit of a another yachtie. Perhaps English cricketers gain their places in the team by threatening to sue if not selected. That would certainly explain a good deal.



**BARNES** 

### Street seller

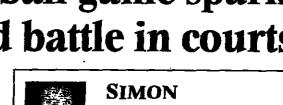
The greatest excitement of watching skiing on the tele-vision is seeing if the skiers can get their logos on camera. As soon as the course has been completed, the real race beings: a desperate struggle to get skis off in time to wave them in the public's face, before the camera turns elsewhere. Alberto Tomba has long been recognised as

the master technician, but

now he has a serious rival. This is the oddly-named American, Picabo Street. She has explained how she has worked - dedicated her life - to the mastering of the Tomba technique "Working the sponsors ... even to how he ducks his head so TV catches the logos on his cap." Street is one of only two female athletes — the other is Steffi Graf - to make it to the Forbes Top 40 hit parade of sport's big earners. She does a lot of "work" for Nike. who don't even sell ski equipment, though now they are planning to "She is as close to a total relationship as we have ever had with an athlete," a spokesman said. Such bliss.

### Marooned

How are the indomitable



On Saturday heroes and joy-bringers of the 1990 World Cup when the Indomitable Lions, with Roger Milla to the fore, beat the world champions, Argentina, in the opening game. Now they are taking part in Afri-ca's Olympic Games qualifying tournament - and have

> eroon's youth and sports minister, for money to get home. Frequent stopovers and complicated itineraries have drained the footballers' purses. In fact, the team only managed to get to Accra, the Ghanaian capital, a few hours before kick-off. Then they found that their new shirts clashed with the opposition's, while their old shirts had the wrong sponsors logo. Eventually, they played

in the old shirts, doctored

been stranded in Ghana. The

head of the team's delegation

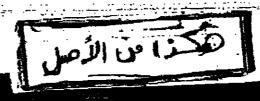
has faxed Professor Joseph-

Marie Bipoun Woum, Cam-

### with sticky tape. Unsurpris-ingly, they lost 3-0. Aussie rules

Cricket is a game about culture clashes and mutual incomprehension. The Australian newspaper publishes a list of dos and don'ts for Australians setting out across the world to play 2 season of club or league cricket. These include: "DO take plenty of cash to a game." The writer explains the system of buying a jug if you make a century or take five wickets. "As Australian cricketers are usually very successful in England, I have come to believe that this is the real reason we keep getting invited over.'

Also, "DON'T sledge the opposition. There is not much on-field aggro in English club cricket. In fact, one common complaint is that it lacks the competitive edge of its Australian counterpart." What a rotten match - no one called me a boot-faced fallen. Cameroon were the colonial boor even once.



## Three enlightened thinkers illuminate week | Hedblom gains

ty deciding my football personality of the week There is a short-list of three: Edgar Davids, the dynamic force of another enthralling Ajax performance in Europe: there is his boss, who had some penetrating things to say about what people are doing to the world's best competition; and there is Cheryl Gillan, the Education and Employment

Gillan managed to pull the bickering English football fraternity together and extend the work permits of Marc Hottiger and Ilie Dumitrescu. Her statement was enlightening: "We have recognised that it is important to allow British dubs to benefit from the contribution which top class (foreign) internationals can make, while still ensuring that opportunities for young players from this country to break into top flight football are not

Make her Minister for Sport. It is high time we had such clarity of thought rather than the mumbled and ineffective apologies from lain

After Davids had played Borussia Dorumund, the German champions, off their own park on Wednesday, he admitted that AC Milan had been in contact, but that "I am also charmed by Barcelona and Real Madrid". However, he added: I have said I would decide by March or April whether I wanted to go or stay. That time has not run out yet. There are greater talents in the team than mine, I have to improve, to go further and I am aware that Ajax has been teaching us all very well."

What humility, what an absence of agents or spivs or other men trying to make up the decision of his young lifetime. Truly, Davids reflects the educative policies laid down by Louis van Gaal.

Fowler falls

victim to

his country's

age concern

The precocious Liverpool forward tells

David Maddock he is ready for England

hy is it that English there's always the next.' But to me. it's not like that. I'm not

cious of young tal-

ent? In Holland, they have Kluivert; in Spain, it is Raúl; in

Portugal, Figo. Brazil have

Juninho and countless others.

In fact, everywhere you look in

the world of international

football, inexperienced players

of immense talent are allowed

to display the refreshing enter-

Not in England. Here, we

are cautious, reluctant, repres-

sive — frightened even — of youth. In England, we have

Robbie Fowler, a blissfully

natural goalscorer, the closest

ing you can get to a

goalscoring machine, and yet,

even after two full seasons of

remarkable feats - 78 goals in

129 games - he is still to make

even an England squad. let

alone an appearance. Would it

be wrong to suggest it is

because he is only 20 years

Even Fowler is perplexed.

He received a late call into a

recent get-together with Terry

Venables, the England coach.

almost as an after-thought.

Apart from that, nothing. No

promise, no encouragement,

no reward for his talent. When

pressed on why he has been

ignored so far, a fire flashes

briefly behind Fowler's dark.

ping up, people keep saying

I'm too young or that I've got

time on my side," he said.

You know the sort of thing: 'If

I don't make it this time.

This age thing keeps crop-

narrow eyes.

prise of their youth.

me. it's not like that. I'm not

saying I should be in there, but

I am saying that age shouldn't

have anything to do with it. Look at Patrick Kluivert I

played against him for Eng-

land Youth and now he's a

regular for the full Holland

side — and he's not done so

His answer is framed as a

question, but in reference to

himself, not Kluivert. We

know exactly what the young

Dutch forward has done; the

inference is that Fowler could

do the same, given the oppor-tunity. And who would doubt

even such a dramatic claim?

Here is a player who will score

goals at any level. They know that at Liverpool. It is why Ian

Rush will be pensioned off at

Fowler has learnt from

ush, copied him and finally

replaced him. Rush leaves with genuine admiration for

the young man. "I honestly

think I will be leaving Liver-

pool in safe hands. Robbie will

probably eclipse everything I

have achieved at the club," he

So why has he not an-

nounced himself on the wider

stage that surely demands his

presence? The answer proba-

bly lies somewhere between a

traditional English mistrust of

youth and a certain immatu-

rity in the young man. It is

hardly surprising, given a rise

to fame that makes meteroric

look methodic. Barely three

years ago, Fowler was on

schoolboy terms at Anfield.

Then the Graeme Souness

revolution swept away the old

guard and he was in the team.

A goal on his debut and five

against Fulham in only his

fourth start offered a fanfare to

an uncommon talent, but

there were problems. Fowler is

a wide-eyed 18-year-old.

the end of the season.

badly, has he?"



Rob **HUGHES** Weekend View

When Uefa, European football's governing body, asked van Gaal, as the coach of the European Cup-holders, to contribute to its latest monthly magazine, it was inviting an exercise in democracy that few administrators would dare. If it knew the man, then it is to Uefa's credit that it was prepared to print his critical analysis.

"I regard as negative any situation where the commercial interests interfere with the game itself," he wrote. Imagine that sentence at a time when Europe's big clubs believed they had coerced Uefa into destroying the entire basis of competition by allowing a

second team, qualified or not. from the leading countries to enter the European Cup. We now know that this will not be in operation next season and van Gaal shares my hope that it never happens.

The reason behind the formula is that it gives top clubs room for a mistake," he continued, "but that is no good argument because it is a commercial argument, not a footballing one." Three cheers for the Dutch-

mestic matches. Lennart Johannson, the president of Uefa, should enman. His article specified areas of growing concern. What was the good, he asked, of sure that these arguments are professional footballers warmthoroughly examined by the ing up and then being asked to medical committee. He is a leave the field more than ten democrat, his challenge to the

pique at the rules restraining

substitutes from warming up

in front of advertising boards.

"Are the substitutes muscles

not important?" he asked.

And, given his forum, he

three European competitions

spread over Tuesday, Wednes-

day and Thursday. "For Ajax,

the current formula is very

good, because the Champions'

League play in the middle of

means recuperation times are

different with regard to do-

so critical of having

president of Fifa, João Havelange, is based upon that minutes before kick-off? The reason, of course, was comand the European chief execumercial, but van Gaal's concern was that players who tive has previously shown a cooled down were at serious kindly eye to the welfare of the risk of injury. Furthermore, he showed

ا صكدان الاصل

performers.
During this same week, we witnessed evidence that Germany, at club level, is falling behind Holland. Its football appears to echo England's two decades ago, when physical force and excess running were paramount. It is intriguing that Franz Beckenbauer, now the president of Bayern Munich, has struck a deal with Ajax.

The German club's experts are engaged on a long-term the week, but for others it study of Ajax's youth training system, in exchange for which Ajax is monitoring the commercial and administrative structure in Munich. Two countries with open minds and realistic attitudes, learning together, instead of presuming that their own methods are impregnable.

Fulham and

Gillingham

guilty of

misconduct

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

FULHAM and Gillingham were yesterday found guilty of misconduct by the Football Association for their parts in

the Endsleigh Insurance League third division match

at Priestfield last November.

Conflict between the rival

players left one with a broken

leg and produced ten book-

ings and two sendings-off,

one mistakenly. The clubs were cleared of a charge of

failing to control their

An FA commission heard

evidence from Mark O'Con-

nor, still on crutches more

than three months after the

game, but deferred sentence

until next week. Mick Bailey, the referee, and Lee Cable,

one of the linesmen, talked

the commission through vid-

eo replays of the tackle by Mark Thomas that left O'Connor with a double frac-

ture of a leg and sparked "a

mass confrontation".

When that subsided, Bailey

mistakenly sent off Martin Gray, on loan to Fulham, as

well as Nick Cusack, as the

game degenerated. The last

ten minutes, Bailey said, were "the most disgusting exhibi-

tion by professional football-

Jimmy Hill, the Fulham

chairman. described the

events of November 25 as "an

unhappy afternoon". He said

that Fulham had apologised

to Gillingham and that Thom-

as had been fined two weeks'

wages. The player had also

been warned that he would be

in similar scenes again.

## head start in fruitful finale

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

PETER HEDBLOM leads the Moroccan Open after a blazing finish that threatened to scorch the rain-dampened Royal Dar Es-Salam course here yesterday. Hedblom had four successive birdies with which to conclude his second round, a five-under-par 67, and he had had three before that. His was the lowest score not only of the second day but of the first as well and he has opened up a lead of four strokes over Phillip Price and six over Alexander Cejka.

Hedblom, who has sturdy shoulders, a wide, toothy smile and a shock of blond hair, resembles many of the 16 other Swedes competing here. Appearances can mislead, however, if they suggest that Hedblom, 26, is like all his countrymen. He is not. He has never drunk or smoked in his

life.
"That is awesome, superb,"
Anders Forsbrand, the elder statesman among the Swedes on the PGA European Tour, said of his colleague's abstemiousness. "He has as much fun as anyone else. He is a great guy."

He is also a free spirit

among golfers who dedicate themselves totally to the game. Others metaphorically wrap themselves in cotton wool, eschewing skiing for example. Hedblom says that life is for living. "I like to do dangerous things. You must have fun even if it costs you your golf career. You could step off a kerb and get killed."

It might not seem much fun to be blindfolded and put in the ring with a Swedish boxing champion, but that is what happened to Hedblom on his 25th birthday — thanks to his friends. The blindfold off, he lasted three, three-minute rounds before, in defending himself, he bruised a rib. This led to a bout of pneumonia and he found himself on the sidelines for some weeks. After his boxing bout, he then walked the mile to his home

haunt Bernhard Langer as he missed the cut at the Honda Classic at Eagle Trace here yesterday. On a grey, windy, overcast day, the indomitable German suffered agonies on the greens and slumped to a 79, seven over par and a total

dismissed if he were involved Graeme Le Saux, the England full back, may yet make it to the European championship finals. The Blackburn Rovers player is recovering well after breaking his leg during an FA Carling Pre-

miership match against Mid-It was painful to watch. On dlesbrough three months ago. Chris Sutton, the Blackburn striker, is also well down the road to recovery after being out since November with ankle problems and is

Wembley and Doncaster Belles meet in the Women's feel the line. If the ball is on League Cup final at Barnet line, it's the wrong pace. Also wearing a fire-fighter's asbestos suit, complete with breathing apparatus on his face.

rties

"The 25th is a big birthday in Sweden," Forsbrand ex-plained. "His friends just wanted to give him a good time on his birthday. Peter is strong and confident. He was good yesterday [Thursday] and today he said it was easy, and when you say it is easy around here then you know you are playing well. I think he can hold on and win."

Hedblom's round also contained two bogeys, both with three putts. He more than made amends for these lapses by sinking putts of 16, 18 and



18 feet on the 16th, 17th and 18th holes. The stroke of luck that is needed in a round as good as this one came on the 15th, where he drove into the trees and needed a three-iron for his second on the 392-yard hole. He hit it to five feet and sank that one, too.

There will not be any competition for Hedblom from Severiano Ballesteros, whose downward spiral continued as he went round in 79 and, 22 strokes behind Hedblom. missed the halfway cut by miles. Ballesteros went out in seven over par and came back in a level-par 36. I have no confidence," Ballesteros said.
"Always I hit the ball on the

### Langer pursued by old putting demons

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN CORAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA

THE old demons returned to on the first six or seven holes, i

Peter Coleman, Langer's long-time caddie, confirmed there was a long putter already on order and said: "He's got to do something. He can't compete like this. He can't yip with the grip he's got, but he's not putting a proper stroke on

his back nine, he three-putted four times in the first six holes, missing from two feet, twice. That nine read: bogey, double bogey, bogey, bogey, par, double bogey, birdie, birdie, par: 41. "I have no rhythm on my putting, no feel," Langer said. "I can't see the line and I can't

missed five greens and didn't get up and down, which is usually my strength." Langer, who has already

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overcome the yips three times in his career, has not missed a cut in Europe since the Italian Open of 1991, but he has now missed out in consecutive events in Florida. After last week's Doral Ryder Open, he sought out Dave Pelz, a renowned short game specialist. to work specifically on his putting and this weekend he will have more time to spare to try and repair the damage.

Meanwhile, at the business end of the leaderboard, Michael Bradley had put in another solid challenge with a round of 68. His total of 137, seven under par, left him one shot ahead of Nick Price, who added a round of 72 to his opening 66. Tim Herron, the first-round leader, who equalled the course record with a 62, had yet to venture out.

### GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S LEADING MATCHES

#### FA Cup Fifth-round replay Today

Tottenham v Nottm For

No let-up for Forest after their bold but unsuccessful trip to Germany in midweek. Straight back into the FA Cup fire, on the White Hart Lane cabbage patch. with Stone and Woan still nursing knocked knees from Munich. Could go all the way, with extra time and penalties — a somewhat bizarre sight on a Saturday.

Fifth round: Nettingham Forest 2 (Woan 2) Totenham 2 : Armsrong 2) FA Cup record: 2-1 (196-67) 2-1 (1970-71); 1-1. b-1 (1974-75); 2-1 (1990-91), 2-2 (1995-96) [196-67] Leading scorers (all competitions): Sharingham 21 (Totterham), Roy, Woen 8 (Notin For)

(Notin For)

TOTTEMAM HOTSPUR (Iron); i Walker,
D Austin, J Edinburgh, C Calderwood, G
Mabbutt, C Wilson, S Campbell, R Fox, A
Sinton, S Stade, E Sheringham, C Amstrong, S Neithercott, J Dozzell, R
Rosenthal

Roserchai MOTTINGHAM POREST (bromi: M. MOTTINGHAM POREST (bromi: M. Crossley, D. Lyttle, D. Phillaps, S. Pearce, S. Crette, A. I. Hasaland, S. Gormmit, I. Woan, C. Bart-Williams, S. Stone, B. Roy, K. Campbell, J. Lse, A. Fetts, K. Black, S. Howe, P. McGregor, C. Armstrong

### Sixth round

#### Today Chelsea v Wimbledon

Stamford Bridge has been in-vaded by foxes, which apparently dig up the pitch during their nocturnal wanderings. Chelsea supporters could also witness the wilder side of life this afternoon. with Joe Kinnear and his gladi-ators popping over from Selhurst Park. Sure to be better than last week's tepid league encounter.

(Wimbledon)
CHELSEA (from): K Hitchcock, T Phelan, D
Potrescu, S Clarke, D Lee, M Duberry, T
Phelan, E Johnsen, R Gultt, D Wise, J
Spencer, M Hughes, G Peacock, P Furiong,
N Spackmen, D Nearne, M Izzet,
WMMBLEDON, Irom): N Sullivan, K
Cummingham, A Kimble, C Perry, A Redves,
D Bleckwell, A Pearce, A Thom, O
Leonhardsen, R Earle, M Gayle, J Goodman, D Holdsworth, V Jones, J Euell, M
Herlord, E Evoku, A Clarke.

### Leeds v Liverpool

Tomorrow

Liverpool's credibility factor has never been higher; shame that Babb and McAteer should plumb the depths recently by appearing on Pyjama Party - one of those banal, late-night girlie shows. Football-wise, Leeds are unlikely to match them, unless Fowler and Collymore also turn up in their

jim-jams. Last meeting: Leeds 2 (Clarke 2) Liverpool 0 (4th md replay, 1971-72), FA Cup record: 0-3 (1924-25); 1-2 (1964-65); 0-0, 2-0 (1971-72). Leading scorers (all competitions). Yeboah 19 (Leads); Fowler 29

(Lverpoof)
LEEDS UNITED (from): J Luke, N Worthington, G Kelly, A Dorigo, D Weitherall, P Beesley, J Pemberton, t. Radebe, C Palmer, G McAllister, M Ford, A Gray, A Gray, A Tolker, M Beeney, L Romes, R Jones, J Lemes, R Jones, J Tinkler, M Beeney.

LIVERPOOL, (hom): D James, R Jones, J McAleer, M Waght, J Redknapp, P Bebb, N Ruddock, S Hariness, S Collymore, I Rush, J Barnes, J Scales, M Thomas, S McManaman, R Fowler, A Warner.

#### Monday Man Utd v Ston

Southampton shouldn't have a prayer but just look at their last Cup visit to Old Trafford Pigs might fly once, but twice? Venison is off, temporarily suspended from the ment, so Hall is given the captain's armband. Le Tissier.

former Dell leader, is ignored again, now by his club manager. Someone somewhere is trying to tell him something.

from that peculiar Scouse

stock of cheeky, streetwise

urchins. Thrown in at the deep

end, he did not really have

sufficient grounding to cope. "I

have bought a new house and

moved my mum in with me.

She does the washing, ironing

and cooking. I haven't really

got a clue about anything but

football and scoring goals," he

said, almost cheerfully. "I

wasn't totally stupid at school.

When Roy Evans took over

as manager at Anfield, he

wanted to avoid another Gas-

coigne-style problem of too

much, too young. He dropped

our near enough."

Last meeting: Manchester Utd 2 (Canchelskis, McClar) Southamoton 2 (Gray, Shearer) (4th md reptay, 1991-92 aet; Southampton won 4-2 on pens) FA Cup record: 1-1, 3-1 (1886-97); 1-0 (1982-65); 3-2 (1963-64); 1-1, 4-1 (1977-72), 0-1 (1975-78); 2-2, 2-1 (1976-77); 0-0, 2-2 (1991-92) Leading ecorers (all competitions): Scholes 13 (Man Utd); Shipperley II (Southampton) MANCHESTER (IMPIE) (Iron). P Schmer-MANCHESTER (IMPIE) (Iron). P Schmer-

Shipperley 11 (Southempton)

MANCHESTER UNITED irron), P Schmerchel, D Inem. P Parker, P Nevolle, G Nevide, R Giggs, R Keere, N Bust, D Beckham, L Shense, E Camoria, A Cole, P Scholes, B McClair, A Colon,

SOUTHAMPTON (trom): D Beasant, J Dodd, S Charlion, F Benali, R Hall, K Mornkou, J Magiliton, M La Tisser, N Shipperley, G Walson, M Walters, M Caldey, B Grobbelsar

### Premiership

### Aston Villa v QPR

Milosevic goals shock reverberated around Villa Park in midweek, the shot-shy Serb being helped by crass defending from Sheffield Wednesday. No change at Loftus Road though, with Rangers handing victory to Leeds. Ray Wilkins faces a titanic challenge and looks like sinking 100. icebergs alloy!

Last season: Aston Villa 2 (Fastanu. Emogui OPR (Yales). 10-year record: 1-2. 0-1, --, 2-1, 1-3, 2-2, 0-1, 2-0, 4-1, 2-1 Lasting scorers: Yorke 13 (Aston Villa). Dicho 8 (OPR). Dicho 8 (OPR).

ASTON VILLA (trom) M Bosmich, U Enlogu, P McGrain, R Scirrece, G Charles, G Southgate, A Townserd, A Whight, J Josephin, S Missewe, D Yorke, M Diagoer, G Famelly, L Hendne, F Carr, M Caires, OPR (from), J Sommer, D Bardsley, B Allen, S Barles, M Braber, R Berdsley, B Allen, S Barles, M Braber, R Brevett, T Charles, D Dicho K Gallen, G Goodnoge, I Holloway, A McDonald, C Purmer, N Cusshie, K Ready, A Roberts, T Sinclar, R Williams, S Yares.

#### Everton v Coventry As Everton edge nearer to Europe,

Fowler has matured into a more responsible player at Liverpool this season

Fowler, who was forever pic-

tured in style magazines with

tongue protruding, gushing about the merits of drinking

with his mates. The hope was

that he would realise football

The penny finally appeared

to drop early this season. Fowler has had to do most of

his growing up in public and it

has been painful. Literally so

when he experienced the ire of

Neil Ruddock, his Liverpool

team-mate, who cuffed him for

a prank too far. Since then,

Fowler has shown a new

Fowler visits Elland Road

maturity.

is not all lads and lager.

Coventry continue to flirt with the devil. Big Ron's rebuilding process, costing £12 million over the past year, could prove one of the most expensive flops in Premiership history. Richardson. Coventry's midfield grafter, misses a return to Goodison because of Suspension.

Last season: Everion 0 Coventry 2 (Dublin, Wegerle) 10 year record: 1-1, 3-1, 1-2, 3-1, 2-0, 1-0, 3-0, 1-1, 0-0, 0-2 Leading scorers: Stuan 8 (Everion); Dublin 13

EVERTON (from): N Southall, M Hottiger, C Short, R Unsworth, A Hinchcliffe, A Kancheskos, J Ebbretl, J Parkinson, B Home, A Limpar, D Ferguson, D Amokachi, G Stuart, J O'Connor, J Kearton G Strant, J O'Combr., Neadon COVENTRY CITY (thorn): S Ogrzowc, B Borrows, L Deush, R Shaw, D Burrows, J Salako, P Willerms, E Jess, P Notlovu, D Dubbin, N Whelen, P Telfer, M Hall, A Pickering, N Lampley, J Filan.

### W Ham v Middlesbro

With Dumitrescu now on board Harry Redknapp has so many players he doesn't know what to do with them all - hence his 22strong squad. At least West Ham supporters can have great fun playing Spot the Englishman. Bryan Robson is able to show off Branco and Juninho, his Brazilian blend, for the first time. Last season: No future. 10-year record:

1-2-2-0, 0-0. —, —, — Leading Cottee 8 (West Ham): Barmby scorers: Cottee 8 (Middlesbrough) (Middlesbrough)
WEST HAM UNITED (from): I, Mildosko, S
Potts, J Dicks, S Bible, M Preper, M Hughes,
IBshop, K Rowland, D Williamson, I Dowe,
A Cottee, J Harkes, Denl, L Sealey, R
Stater, A Whithread, D Gordon, A Martin,
T Breacker, J Moncur, F Lampard, P
Shitran

Shilton
MIDDLESBROUGH (Irom), G Walsh, N
Cox, D Whyle, N Pearson, C Fleming, C
Morre, G Kavaragh, R Musloe, M Barron, C
Hgmett, N Barmby, J A Florioti, Juninho, A
Moore J Morano, Branco

European indoor championships In Stockholm

MEN: 60m: First round: Qualifiers for semifinals include J John (GB) and K Williams
(GB) 6 72sec Non-qualifiers include J
Gardener (GB) 6.79. 400m: First round:
Qualifiers for semi-finals include K Ulyatr
(GB) 47.41, T.McGurk (re) 47.73: O Ladego
(GB) 47.84 Pole vault: Qualifiers for final
include N Buckfield (GB) 5.55m BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA). Chertote 119 Datas 105, Atlanta 83 Cleveland 72. Chicago 102 Detroit 81; Denser 103 Phoens 92. Golden State 95 Houston 86; Los Angeles Lakers 102 Sacremento 88 Los Angeles Lewers für Sacremento der EUROPEAN CHAMPPONSHIP: Cluareo-finals, first leg: Ulterpeor (Tur) 77 Baros-lona 105; Panathinajkos 70 Benetion Treviso 67, Olympiakos 68 Proal Machild 48. BUDWESSER LEAGUE: Derby 72 London

on Sunday for an FA Cup

quarter-final tie with Leeds

United knowing that even

Venables must begin to take

notice if he maintains his

current, prolific form. An Eng-

land future is not daunting

"In the past, I've always said I

wasn't ready, because that's

what you do, but now I really

do think I'm ready. I want a

cap," he said. "I've played

against the best defenders and

have performed well enough.

My aim is to continue that,

take my chances in big games

like this cup match and earn a

cap by right, no matter what

**ATHLETICS** 

age I am."

### BILLIARDS WIGAN: Strachan United Kingdom championahip: Final: M Russell (Eng.) bt D Causier (Eng.) 1,890-1,277.

AUCHINLECK: Home international championship: Scotland by treland 126-104 (Scotland skips first); R McCune 25-15; R Proven bt S Adamson 22-17; W Wood tost to R Battersby 16-23, G Robertson lost to G McCoy 15-17; A Marshall bt S Moran 20-18 Wales bif feelend 132-102 (Wales skips lirst): J Greenslade bt G McCloy 24-21; N Leigh bt S Moran 20-10; D Willens lost to S Wiles 15-19; R Wales bt R McCloy 24-21; N Leigh bt S Adamson 27-17. S Rees bt R Battersby 19-18.

EASTLEEGH: All-England woman's Indoor

Battersby 19-18.
EASTLEKSH: All-England woman's Indoor championshipe: Singles: Semi-finals: S Hazell (Mote Park) bt D Minchell (Cloydon) 21-13. J Baker (South Forest) bt B Brown (Colchester) 21-14 Final: Hazell bt Minchell 21-8. Unbadged pains: Semi-finals: March bt Das 28-8; Geding bt City of Burningham 26-9.

**REAL TENNIS** NEW YORK: United States amateur championship: Final: N Pendrigh (GB) bt T Chisholm (US) 6-0, 6-5, 4-6, 4-6, 6-4

### FOR THE BECORD BOXING

back in full training.

tomorrow (2.30pm).

OXFORD: University match: Oxford bt Cambridge 6-3 (Oxford names first): Featherweight: C Hampson (SI Ame o) bt R Platt (Pelerhouse) sic 2nd md Light K Ayoubi (Pembroke) bt D Freeland (Pembroke) rsc 2nd md Light-weiter: A Mehta (Oriel) bt J Cartwright (Wolfson) pts Weiter: A Jemes (Wadhern) bt M Raza (Wolfson) bt. Light-middle: M Pokass (Ferdord) lost in N Lois (Jesus) pts. Middle: S Munif (Lincoln) bt T Lucas (Scinney Susses) pts. J Stein (St Hugh's) lost to N Johnson (Rizwettern) pts. Light-heavy: A Stewart (Bassenos) lost to D Vagovic (Churchill) pts Heavy: M Orster (Christ Church) bt J Cocks (Magdalene) pts

### CRICKET SHEFFIELD SHEELD (tirst day of four): Sydney: New South Wates 93-2 v Victora. Perth: Western Australia 224 (T Moody 90); Tesmania 75-2 (M DiVenuto 51 not out).

CYCLING

SPAIN: Tour of Murcia: Third stage Murcia to Ceravaca de le Cruz, 1573 kilometres): 1, S CrGredy (Aus) 4hr 12mm 29eec. 2, J Telen (Holl); 3, M Marzoon (ti; 4, M Aers (Bell): 5, A Sainty (Russ); 6, K Ozers (Let); 7, S de Jognh (Holl); 8, H van Dyck (Riol); 9, O Kozitin (Kaz); 10, D Nazon (Fr) all seme time. Overall positions: 1, R Massi (II) 13\*08:51; 2, M Maun (Sp) at 2sec; 3, W Belti (II) at 5; 4, N Stephens (Aus) at 10. Mal AVSIA: Tour of L protogret: Elotath Belti (tt) at 5; 4, N Stephens (Aus) at 10.

MALAYSIA: Tour of Lengkowic Eighth stage: Phase one (Kuantan to Paka, 110 kdometres); 1, R McAutey (Ire) 2hr 27mm 35sec; 2, P Wedge (Can), same time, 3, S Teilman (US) at 7sec, 4, R Hayles (GB) et 51. Phase two (Paka to Pantar Betti Buruk, 110 kdometres); 1, J Sweet (Aus) 2hr 11mm 55sec; 2, R Rad (Ny; 3, G Michaell (Nz); 7, J Tamer (GB) et same time. Overall positions; 1, D McDonald (Aus) 28:52-18; 2 C Neuton (GB) ness; 3 R Damps (Aus)

iton (GB) at 9sec; 3, B Dannis (Aus LACROSSE

MILTON KEYNES: National schoolgirls tournament: Boyd Cup (seniors) Semi-finals: Haberdashers' Aske's 3 St Paul's 1: St Bartholomew's, Newbury 4, St Athans HS 0. Final: Haberdashers' 5, St Bartholomew's 0 Westcott-Jones Cup (luniors): Semi-finals: Wycombe Abbey 2, Lady Ejesnor Holes 1: Berthamsted 3, Norwich HS 2, Final: Wycombe Abbey 3, Berkhemsted 0.

### FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finala, first leg: Dynamo Moscow 0 Rapid Vienna 1; Parma 1 Paris Salor Germain 0. Deportivo 1, Real Zaragoza 0. Bonissia Mönchengladbech 2 Fevenoord 2 TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Fifth round: St. Johnstone 1 Heart of Midlothian 2: UNIBOND LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Hyde United 5 Lancaster City 1.

GOLF

RABAT: Moroccan Open: Leaders effer two rounds (GB and Ire unless stated): 135: P Hedbforn (Swe) 68, 67, 138: P Price 71, 68, 141: A Cejte (Ger) 70, 71, 142: S Luna (Sp) 73, 69, 143: R Goodsen (SA), 71, 72: P Mitchell 71, 72; R Russell 69, 74; J McHenty 70, 73: M Besanceney (Fr) 72, 71, A Johnstone (Zm) 70, 73: T Penchion (Fr) 74, 68: P Harmgfon 72, 71; M Incellt 71, 72; W Westner (SA) 71, 72

72, W Westner (SA) 71, 72
CORAL SPRINGS, FLORIDA: Honda
Classic: Early leaders efter two rounds
(US unless stated) 137; M Bradley 69, 68
138; N Price (Zarry 66, 72, 138; K Fargus 67
70, M Bristy 88, 71, Efficier 64, 75 140; P
Slowert 70, 70, 141; J Adams 73, 68, 6 Sauers 70, 71; J Morse 71, 70, S Verplan 55, 76; G Norman (Aus.) 70, 71 Other score: 152: B Langer (Gen 73, 79 British first round scores: 70: A Lyle, D Kirkpairick. 75: J Sandelin. 77: N Faldo.

INDIANAPOLIS: United States Olympic triels (first two in each event quality for Alianta): Merr: 100m freestyle: 1, 6 Hat Jr 49 49sec; equal 2, J Olsen and J Davis 49.94 200m butterfly: 1, M Stewart (man 58.96sec; 2, R Carry, 1,5.87; 3, T Melchow 1,59.11 400m individual medley: 1, T Dolan 4:12 72, 2, E Nameanà 4:17.19, 3, I Mel Jr 21, 18 Meterner 200m inceptior 1. Dolan 4:12 72, 2, E Namesna 4:17.19, 3, 1 Muli 4:22.16 Women: 200m freestyle: 1, C Teuscher 1:59.50; 2, T Jackson 2:00.62, 3, L Jackson 2:00.62, 3, L Jackson 2:00.65, 400m freestyle: 1, J Evans 4:12.26, 100m backstroka: 1, W Hedgepth 1:01.51; 2, B Bosslord 1:02.53; 3, C Fox. 1:02.60, 100m breaststroka: 1, A Beard 1:09.36; 2, K Ouence 1:09.72; 3, K Kowal 1:09.89.

### ICE HOCKEY

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### TENNIS

MEXICO CITY: Men's tournement; Second round: J Novak (Cz) bi F Fonlang (Fr) 7-6, 63; J Sanchez (Sp) bi F Vitoux (Fr) 6-3. T Muster (Austrial bi L Lobo (Avg) 7-6, 6-2 F Meigeni (Br) bi B Shetion (US) 6-2, 6-4, A Harmandez (Mex) bi F Martitio (Sp) 2, 2, 5

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ROTTERDAM: Men's tournament: Second round: P Sampras (LS) bt J Hissek (Swtz) 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; Y Kaleinikov (Fluss) bt J Btroph (Hof) 6-4, 6-2; Ouzster-Snals: G Ivansewic (Cro) bt M Damm (Cc) 7-5, 6-2; T

hranisovic (Cro) by M Damm (Cc) 7-5, 6-2; T Henman (GB) w o Sampras Str SCOTTSDALE, Artzona: Men's tournament; Second round: J Genesisto (US) by J Bjorkman (Swe) 2-6, 7-5, 6-2; W Fameira (SA) bit S Steven (NZ) 6-4, 6-4; A Berasategui (Sp) bit S Matsucka, Ljapan) 6-3, 6-4; R Reneberg (US) w o P McEnroce (US) so; S Edberg (Swe) bit T Martin (US) 7-5, 6-2; A Coste (Sp) bit J Bunklo (Sp) 6-3, 6-3; M Rios (Chile) bit D Nestor (Can) 7-8, 4-6, 7-6; S Stolle (Aus) w o M Larsson (Swe) str

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WELSH DOUBTS OVER THOMAS BRING JENKINS BACK INTO FRAY

SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996

Sub-continent smoulders with hostility as England are deprived of their leading bowler

## World Cup in the line of fire

FROM ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN BANGALORE

IN THE frantic streets of this city in southern India, a motorscooter wobbled between the belching buses and angrily tooting taxis yester day, carrying a symbolic load. Perched precariously on the back, wide-eyed and whiteknuckled with concentration. was a man cradling a television set under his arm. For those unable to buy, beg or borrow tickets for the match of their lifetime, a luxury item has suddenly become an

The same streets will be empty this afternoon, save for the few thousand who will camp outside the Chinnaswami stadium, a vigil partly in protest at the impossibility of getting inside but more as an act of faith and commitment.

If the result goes the wrong way, late this evening, those streets will be best avoided, for there will be tears among the sweat: perhaps blood, too. This, you see, is like no other

Heavy security Leading article World Cup diary ..

cricket match. This is India against Pakistan: a drama, a rarity and, in present circumstances, an incongruity. Both sides of the border, newspaper front pages stir the rhetoric of what is effectively a war. Troops are launching rockets at each other. Nuclear threats are a daily occurrence. Down south, here in Bangalore, the sparring countries prepare to play a cricket match.

It is seven years since the teams met on anything but neutral territory. Between times, they have played in Sharjah and even on English football and athletics grounds. though crowd disorder in England has rarely allowed them to finish. No game between them, however, has ever meant more than this not just because it is the quarter-final of the World Cup, not just because the global audience will boggle the mind, but because their countries are at each others'

throats. Many believed cricket could not rise above this conflict and some, the manipulators and malcontents, openly hoped it would not. Bal Thackeray, the extremist leader of the ruling Shiv Sena party in Bombay. has decreed that the Pakistan team will never set foot in "his city" and his supporters have claimed they will infiltrate today's game. Against such bitterness, such odds, the need for the day to pass off in peace transcends all else.

Cricketers cannot be immune to such responsibility and the strain was evident vesterday on the faces of the India team. They filed into a reception a little later and a, lot less smartly than Pakistan. They also, conspicuously,

The home team must carry the local expectation of victory and the global demand for harmony. These burdens were not sitting comfortably on their shoulders.

Across the room, Wasim Akram, the Pakistan captain,

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Security guards patrol the Chinnaswami stadium as the Pakistan players prepare for their match against India. Photograph: John Moore

could scarcely have looked more relaxed, and the distinction was not lost on him. They were full of tension when we saw them yesterday," he said, gesturing at the Indians. "Our boys were

laughing and joking.
"If we were playing in Pakistan, the roles would be reversed and the pressure would be on us. That is why it is preferable for us to play the

game here." Wasim broke off to hail his counterpart, Mo-hammed Azharuddin, who looked distracted. As the two shook hands, the space around them lit up with dozens of camera flashes. The greeting was genuinely

"We get along fine with their players," Wasim said. "It is politics that builds this game into something more than

cricket." Equally, it is politics that sharnes it. The Bangalore ground can hold more than 50,000, yet only 11,000 tickets were sold to the public.

The local authorities pleaded an "unprecedented de-mand" from VIPs, yet the truth is that too many tickets have gone to the influential and undeserving and far too many to the unscrupulous. I had not even emerged from the arrivals hall at the airport before fielding the first offer of black-market tickets.

Resentment has understandably been aroused. Refuel it today with a Pakistan victory and even the startling security measures, which include 3,000 civil policemen, three rapid action forces and a bomb squad, may be rendered impotent. Yet a Pakistan vic-

The country speaks of only one player, for it is tacitly acknowledged that only he can bring the glory it craves. Sachin Tendulkar, a remarkably self-possessed young man, carries off the compliment without apparent vanity or stress, but today, when he faces Wasim and Wagar Younis, the best new-ball pair in the world, who will be intent only on his dismissal, it will be his mental poise, as much as his wondrous talent, that will be examined as never before. So too will the mettle of the umpires, one of whom will be David Shepherd, of Eng-land. Raman Subba Row, a

longer the tournament has

run, the more formidable the

holders have become: India's

graph has been entirely differ-

ent — a rousing start faltering into doubts and defeats.

former chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board, will be the match referee. Pakistan, meanwhile, wait upon their captain. Yesterday. Wasim was still suffering from a strained left side. "It

hurts even to sneeze," he said, ominously. Yet, while patently unfit, Wasim speaks with defiance. "I will play if it is only 50 per cent right," he said. Therein lies the measure of this colossal occasion.

## Lara attempts to defuse controversy

By SIMON WILDE

WEST INDIES called a press conference on their arrival in Karachi yesterday to clear up what Wes Hall, their manager, called the "pusilianimous humbug" surrounding remarks attributed to Brian Lara in an Indian magazine earlier this week. Lara apologised for them, but said they were taken out of context and contained no racial connotation.

The Outlook magazine quoted Lara as saying that West Indies hated losing to South Africa — whom they meet in a World Cup quarterfinal on Monday - because they were a largely white

team. Lara said yesterday: "My words were: Today's defeat [by Kenya] was not as humiliating as the defeat back in 1992 when we first met South Africa. Why? Because South Africa (were) coming out of the apartheid era and West Indies [were] the best cricket team in the world." He added: "I'm sorry for what has taken place. It hasn't dampened my relationship

with South African people. I have spoken to some of the guys I know there and I think they understand my situa-Lara pointed out that he

had played in South Africa on

several occasions and conducted coaching clinics there in 1994. "I have no racial preferences in sport or any aspect of life. What has happened has been a big blow to me because of the respect I have for the administrators of cricket in South Africa, for the way they are developing crick-South Africa. We have a great match on our hands. Let's not

try and spoil it." Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, had earlier responded to Lara's comments by saying: "You don't need any greater motivation than that."



Lara: has coached and played in South Africa

## No spring in Gardener's step

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

**Television deal delays** 

climax to title race

FOR the third successive year, the final matches in the FA Carling Premiership have been put back 24 hours to coverage. The fixtures due to be played on Saturday, May 4, will now be played on Sunday, May 5, all with 4pm kick-offs. Last season, Blackburn Rovers won the title despite losing 2-1 at Liverpool. Manchester United failed to overhaul Blackburn by only drawing I-I at West Ham United. The games were shown simultaneously on the BSkyB sports channels.

Rick Parry, chief executive of the FA Premier League, said: The decision to move all games will enable the Premier League to ensure that no club receives an unfair advantage by playing their final match later than anyone else. Clubs may only apply to have their match moved back to Saturday if the game in question has no bearing on the championship, qualification for the Uefa Cup or relegation."

Newcastle United, Liverpool and Manchester United have effectively turned the Premiership into a three-cornered fight. On May 5, Newcastle, the leaders, are at home to Tottenham Hotspur, Manchester United are away to Middlesbrough and Liver-

pool visit Manchester City. Key issues at the other end of the table could be resolved by the meeting of Southamp-ton and Wimbledon at The Dell, Coventry City's home game with Leeds United and Queens Park Rangers's away fixture at Nottingham Forest.

Last season, the Endsleigh Insurance League first division programme was also moved back a day. No similar plans have been announced by the Football League as yet. | away, he pulled up to third

FROM DAVID POWELL place, but it was not enough to ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT take him into the semi-finals. "All the pressure has been

JASON GARDENER probably wishes he had never run the fastest 60 metres by a European this year. As soon as he did it, he was under pressure and, in the Globe Arena yesterday, his world fell

Unreasonably, given that he had no previous experience of a senior international championship, Gardener was built up as the favourite to win the European indoor championships gold medal here, to become the fourth successive Briton to hold the title after Linford Christie. Jason Livingston and Colin Jackson.

Aged 20, and visibly shocked by the experience,

his response to the gun. Last

Gardener was eliminated in the first round. He falsestarted and then, anxious not to be disqualified for a second mistake, was over-cautious in

thrown at Gardener," Jason John, his fellow Briton, who reached the second round comfortably, acknowledged. Gardener, whose 6.55sec in the match against Russia six weeks ago held as the fastest time by a European up to these championships, managed only 6.79sec. He did not

stop for Gardener's question

time, leaving the stadium

while reporters waited to interview him.

On the telephone later, he said: "I think I was a little bit unlucky, but rules are rules and you cannot argue with them." He was referring to the Seiko timing equipment, still relatively new to international athletics, but used for the world championships in Gothenburg last year, which

is more sensitive to an athlete's movement while in the blocks. Though there were many complaints among athletes in Gothenburg, any system

which improves the detection of illegal movement must be to the sport's advantage. Gar-dener was given a laise start without leaving the blocks, but was clearly rocking in the set position. Ironically, only the day before, he had been mak-ing the point that he had never false-started. The Olympic Games in Atlanta this summer, he will be pleased to know, will be using a different

timing system.

In other events on the first day of the three-day championships, Britain made encouraging progress. Ashia Hansen underlined her prospects of a medal in the women's triple jump final today by recording the second-longest qualifying distance. Iva Prandzheva, from Bulgaria, the silver medal-winner in Gothenburg, jumped 14.37 metres in quali-fying, with Hansen on 14.32 metres. Hansen thus avoided the realisation of her worst

fear - failing to qualify for the final. "I do worry about it." she

had said on Thursday. She

qualifying round in three successive international championships.

Nick Buckfield earned his place in the 12-man pole vault final today with a qualifying clearance of 5.55 metres. Mark Proctor reached the shot final with a personal best 19.12 metres, elevating himself to seventh place in the all-time

Du'aine Ladejo, Britain's best hope for a title, won his heat of the 400 metres and Kent Ulyatt, called in as a reserve after Mark Hylton and Guy Bullock withdrew injured, did the same. The semi-finals are today.

The next world championships are in Athens in 1997, but whether they will be seen live on British television remains open to question. Bo Gentzel, of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), said yesterday that the EBU and the International Amateur Athletic Federation were "miles apart" in negotiations.

## Withdrawal of Cork adds to Atherton's woe

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN FAISALABAD

DOMINIC CORK, the only bowler who takes his place in the England team by right, was yesterday ruled out of the World Cup quarter-final against Sri Lanka, which was due to have got under way in Faisalabad early today.

Cork, who has a history of

knee trouble, had been struggling for a week with his latest injury and withdrew yesterday. His place was expected to go to his Derbyshire teammate, Phillip DeFreitas.

The absence of Cork deprived Michael Atherton, the England captain, of the one bowler who has commanded the respect of opponents in the past year for a match against arguably the most powerful batting side in the com-

Sri Lanka have scored more than six runs an over in this World Cup and recorded the highest score in one-day international cricket this week, 398 for five against Kenya, who had just bowled out West

indies for 93. "Injuries always seem to come along just when you don't want them," said Cork. who hopes to be fit for the semi-final in Calcutta on Wed-nesday, should England reach it. "Although it is not too bad, I am struggling to put pressure on the knee and it hurts when I run. It would be wrong to go into such a big game carrying an injury, than break down and let the team down."

Cork injured his right knee in Lahore, before the tournament began, and has never shaken it off. Phillip Bell, the team doctor, said that it was caused by over-use and that the only cure was a lengthy rest. Bell has already prescibed a six-week period "off games" when Cork returns to England.

Atherton took a philosophical view of Cork's withdrawal "We brought a 14-man squad and expected to use all the players because of injury and illness. Someone else will now come in and it is up to him to put in a good performance, so that we won't miss Dominic."

England's progress in this competition has been halted every turn of the way by injury and disappointment. Craig White went home with a groin strain after failing to complete the first game, against New Zealand, and Neil Fairbrother returned to England this week after tearing a hamstring in the defeat by Pakistan.

England won only two of their five group matches, against Holland and United Arab Emirates, and have generally made a bad impression with their lack of grace.

Despite these setbacks, Atherton continued to bang the drum yesterday. "Sri Lanka are probably the in-form side. along with South Africa, but that just makes it a bigged challenge." Atherton said: "They have a lot of shot-makers and, while their bowling is not as strong it is stronger than a couple of years ago." And, he might have added, it is no weaker than

DeFreitas, who has featured in two World Cup finals and



one-day international, ma bowl off spin in an attempt for

contain the Sri Lankans. Raymond Illingworth, the team manager, warned that England had to be flexible in the first 15 overs of the innings when a team is permitted only two neiders more than 3 yards from the bat. "We have been working hard on trying to bowl as straight as possible." Illingworth said. "I don't think any team has worked harder in practice, so let's hope it pays dividends."

Defeat would bring Illingworth's dual job, as manager and chairman of selectors, into focus when the Test and County Cricket Board meets later this month.

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Nigel Hawkes: the art of coarse

Page 4

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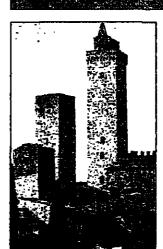
PLUS: your questions answered, page 4



**OUTDOORS** 

Why are the British so bad at recycling? Page 15

PLUS: Derwent May's feather report, page 15



Jeremy Paxman walks hidden Tuscany Page 17

Park

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PLUS: the court of the Dalai Lama, pages 18-19

THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996

## MARRIAGE COUNSELLING: HOW IT WORKED FOR US



By Theresa Buck

y experience of facing imminent divorce with three children has shown me how little Tom and I understood about the flash points in our marriage. I was always the breadwinner,

marriage. I was always the breadwinner, insisting that I didn't mind when, actually, I did. I wanted children, Tom wasn't keen, but I had them anyway, the first one "accidentally" hoping it would work out. Tom was frightened by the responsibility.

Tom adored the babies but, as responsibility at home mounted, his appearances there became rarer — it turned into a bed-and-breakfast marriage. As the hideous pressures of my publishing job grew I brought my work manners home, treated everybody with the same bright forcefulness I use in the office, undermining Tom with frosty efficiency. I undermining Tom with frosty efficiency. I expected him to be around in the evenings and weekends as my father had been. He wanted to go down to the pub or watch rugby matches or work on his latest painting as he did, increasingly, through the night.

Any expert counsellor could have told us that any one of these events and problems was a potential marriage breaker, and if we'd got to grips earlier we might have made it. As it was I unearthed two - extremely expensive and utterly unsuitable — marriage counsellors on the recommendations of friends and plunged us both into counselling without first finding out whether the counsellors were properly trained, or whether they were supervised by a recognised marriage guidance organisation.

The first, a woman, shouted down the stairs at me as I left after one session: "The fact that you use a name other than your husband's is most significant. Think about it." The second, a grey-haired man with a distinguished reputation, fell asleep, actually more than once. We went to each, at least

once a week, for just over a year.

Why did we allow this £80 an hour doze?

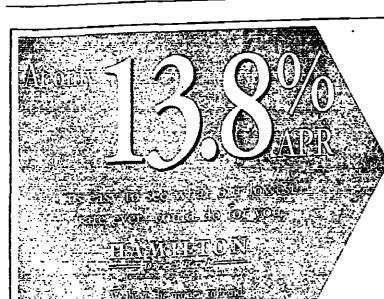
Lamely, I can only say that when you are as upset and as uncommunicative as we were, common sense can be left behind. Our third counsellor is from Relate. She is sensible, and she gets us to talk to each other and to listen to each other. It sounds simpler than it is.

ur 11-year marriage is likely to end in divorce, but on a more civilised basis than we were crashing towards before. We have failed our children but we will now negotiate as decent a settlement for them as we can manage. At least they will no longer have to witness or endure the violent rows or icy silences between us. Our expectations of each other are irreconcilable. Relate counts this recognition of reality as some kind of success. Now we have intelligent discussions about custody for the three boys, and the finances, where before it was a snarling: "I'll make it difficult for you in court."

However the Princess Royal chooses to knock it, this is the age of counselling. The Princess of Wales, still patron of Relate, not so long ago sat in on counselling sessions. Now, the Princess is having counselling twice a week in the run up to her divorce. The Duchess of York has had counselling; and her friend the actress Pamela Stephenson is training in psychotherapy, often regarded as one of the best backgrounds for a counsellor.

Relate, nationwide gives 450,000 counselling sessions a year, and the London Marriage Guidance Council has around 12,000 clients a year. The numbers grow every year, although people in their forties and older still seem to regard counselling as

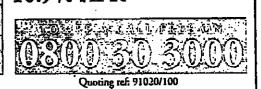
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GALLERIES

Richard Cork

SPELLBOUND To mark the centenary of the first film screening in Britain, the Hayward Gallery has mounted an enjoyable show celebrating the love affair between art and film. Eduardo Paolozzi, the oldest exhibitor, displays a vast treasure-house filled with filmstudio props. Paula Rego's vigorous pastels pay alarming homage to Disney's Fantasia and Snow White. But other artists make films of their own, ranging from the witty animation of Boyd Webb's popeorn story to Damien Hirst's macabre Hanging Around and Steve McQueen's suspenseful Stage. The film directors' contribustage. The fifth directors contribu-tions are less impressive: Ridley Scott is oddly subdued and Terry Gilliam lightweight. But Peter Greenaway's noisy, flashing installation is shamelessly theatrical. and Douglas Gordon's 24-hour version of Psycho is a slow, mesmerising revelation.

Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre, London SEI (0171-261)

(127), until May 6. Paolozzi is also showing at Jason and Rhodes, 4 New Burlington Place, London WI (0171-434 1768), until March 23.

LISA MILROY AND DILLER + SCOFIDIO A well-balanced dou-ble bill at the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham, where Lisa Milroy's travel paintings occupy the upper space with quiet assurance. Showing great technical virtuosity. Milroy takes her own photographs as the starting-point for a remarkably limpid range of views. Her small paintings of Tokyo are a delight, but the American Holiday sequence offers a rich range of snapshot images. Downstairs the New York-based architects Diller + Scofidio have installed Slow House. a series of lectern-shaped structures based on an oceanfront house they have designed for a Long Island site. Written observations on each crystal screen fade when lights reveal a photograph, drawing or model behind. A thoughtful work, impeccably well organised. Ikon Gallery, John Bright Street, Birmingham (0121-643 0708); Milroy until March 23, Diller + Scofidio, last day today.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

ECO GALA Pinchas Zukerman directs from the violin as the English Chamber Orchestra celebrates its 35th birthday with a Royal Gala in the presence of the



Zukerman: directing the English Chamber Orchestra

Prince of Wales. The orchestra has plenty of reasons to celebrate, too. Although it is not at the cuttingedge of British musical life quite as often as it was during its long collaboration with Benjamin Britten and Aldeburgh in the 1960s and early 1970s, it has maintained a remarkably high standard over the vears. In this concert Zukerman plays the Beethoven Violin Concerto

and directs operatic arias and overtures by Mozart. Barbican, Silk Street, London SEI (0171-638 8891), Tues 12, 7,30pm.

FIFTIES EPIC The Towards the Millennium festival of 1950s art and music continues with a real rarity, and a vast one at that: Martinu's cantata The Epic of Gilgamesh, based on the ancient Babylonian story. The Czech composer has never gained much of a following in Britain — yet his music is attractive, approachable and has a strong mystical atmosphere. In these concerts, by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Sir Simon Rattle, it is coupled with another highly-charged 1950s masterpiece from East Europe: Shostakovich's magnificent Tenth Symphony.

Symphony Hall, Birmingham (0121-212 3333), Wed 13, 7.30pm; Festival Hall, South Bank, London (0171-960 4242), Thur 14, 7,30pm.

ROCK

**David Sinclair** 

**EVERYTHING BUTTHE GIRL** In an ironic twist. Everything But the Girl's final single for the record company that dropped them last year — a Todd Terry remix of Missing - has turned into the biggest hit of the duo's 14-year career. Now signed to a different label, they have shifted the emphasis away from the sedate folk-jazz sound of their work in the 1980s. towards a "drum and bass" dancefloor style on their forthcoming album, Walking Wounded. Bristol University (5) (0117-929 9008), March 13; De Montfort University, Leicester (5) (01162 555576), March 14: Middlesbrough Town Hall (5) (01842 242561). March 15: Leadmill. Sheffield (5) (0114-275 4500), Mar 17: Northwick Theatre, Worcester (01905) 755141), March 18. Also University of East Anglia. Norwich, March 19: Pyramids Centre, Portsmouth. March 21; Shepherds Bush Empire. London, March 22.

act Electribe 101. Billie Ray Martin has taken a significant step towards mainstream success with her debut solo album. Deadline For My Memories. Combining a voice that echoes the sweeping emotional power of Alison Moyet with the coolest dancelloor beats, she is a rapidly emerging talent of considerable poise and promise. Kings College, London WC2 (5) (0171-836 7132), Mar 14; Hippo Club, Cardiff (01222 341463), Mar 15; Lakota, Bristol (0117-942 6208). Mar 16; University of East Anglia, Norwich (2) (01603 358608), Mar 20. Also Sankey's Soap, Manchester, Mar 21: Ministry of Sound, London, Mar 22; Roadmender. Northampton, Mar 26: Nightinle. Birmingham, Mar 29: LA2 London WI, Apr 3; Leadmill, Sheifield, Apr 7: Jazz Cafe, London NWI, May 5.

**BILLIE RAY MARTIN Formerly** 

the singer with radical cult dance

DPERA Rodney Milnes

TRISTAN AND ISOLDE As the English National Opera's runaway success draws to the end of its initial run, there is a new Isolde in Mary Lloyd-Davies, who made such a strong impression in last November's Chelsea Opera Group concert performance of Tannhauser on the South Bank — a firm. athletic and highly musical singer whose assault on this Everest of soprano roles is awaited with great interest. Otherwise Mark Elder's intense, searching conducting. David Alden's spare production, George Gray's solid Tristan, and superb supporting performances

A scene from Damien Hirst's macabre Hanging Around, at the Spellbound exhibition (see Galleries)

from Gwynne Howell and Jonathan Summers are constants. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-632 8000), Mon 11, 5pm. 🔕

DON PASQUALE For an altogether lighter, neatly planned satyr-play approach to the wretched Eternal Irlangle, try Donizetti s merry comedy-with-the-occasional tear - tunes, more tunes and inimitably sparky orchestration. The revival of Patrick Mason's modern-dress production has an inviting cast: vivacious Mary Hegarty as Norina/Isolde, dashing Neill Archer as Emesto/Tristan. and the immortal Donald Adams as Pasquale/King Mark. Suave Alan Opic completes the cast as Dr Malatesta and the conductor is Michael Lloyd.

Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-632 8000), Tues 12, Thur 14, 7,30pm. 🔊

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

COMPANY A well-merited transfer for Sam Mendes's intimate version of a show that, when staged at Her Majesty's 20-odd years ago. seemed more a garish attack on the pressures of city life than a rumination about the whys and wherefores of wedlock. Though Stephen Sondheim's trademark ynicism is still evident and the wit of his rhymes undimmed, the emotional balance has shifted. The musical has become a sympathetic, of the mind of Adrian Lester's bachelor, flummoxed as it is by the confusions and disasters afflicting Sophie Thompson, Sheila Gish and his other married friends. Albery, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730). Evenings:

Monday to Saturday, 7.45 pm: matinées: Wed and Sat. 3pm. TOMMY If you are afraid your

ears will get splintered, or your mind shredded, be reassured. Des McAnuff's production of Pete Townsend's tale of the autistic boy turned pop messiah, while not the most musically or intellectually taxing piece ever written, comes across with such skill, drive and visual derring-do that the only risk is indigestion of your over-feasted eyes. And Paul Keating brings force as well as vulnerability to a Tommy who whirls about on a pinball machine that looks like a flying saucer spilling fairy-dust.

Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2 (0171-379 5399), Mon to Sat, 8pm; matinées: Wed and Sat. 3pm. 🚱

DANCE

John Percival

SOUTH BANK DANCE Audiences will sit on the stage at the Queen Elizabeth Hall tonight and tomorrow for The Reverse Effect in which choreographers Wayne MacGregor, Wendy Houston and Lea Anderson set their dancers to work in the hall's seats, aisles. lighting boxes and projection booths. (Two shows nightly, 7.45 and 9.30.) Back to normal seating (Friday 15 and Saturday 16, 7.45pm) for the British premiere of Shobana Jeyasingh's Lintu Ja Tuuli (The Bird and the Wind), based on Indian and Finnish folk poets, to music by Eero Hameenniemi. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London (0171-960 4242).

ROYAL BALLET This week's ballet performances at Covent Garden are the last there until April: Giselle with Sylvie Guillem on Tuesday and Thursday, a mixed bill including Ashton's virtuoso

piece Rhapsody and MacMillan's dramatic The Invitation on Wednesday and Friday. Then a group of 30 dancers goes on tour for two weeks to small, regional theatres with Forsythe's thrillingly athletic Steptext and a clutch of new works by mostly young choreographers.

Royal Opera House. London.

WC2 @ (0171-304 4000), March 12-15, 7.30pm; Wycombe Swan (0)1494 512000), March 18, 7.30pm; March 19. 2pm and 7.30pm: Lyceum Theatre. Sheffield (1) (0114 726 9922), March 21-23, 7.45pm; March 23, 3pm; Grand Theatre, Blackpool (01253 28372), March 25, 7.30pm: March 26, 2pm, 7.30pm: Theatre Royal, Bath (01225 448844), March 28-30, 8pm; March

MUSEUMS

WILLIAM MORRIS REVISIT-

John Russell Taylor

ED Usually the last thing that a centenary exhibition would be expected to do is to "question the egacy" but that is precisely the programme this new exhibition. organised by and starting its tour at the Whitworth, lays down in its subtitle. This year is the hundredth anniversary of William Morris's death, and we are due for a number of shows on the subject. This one is admiring but not too reverential. The legacy at issue is the whole Arts and Crafts movement, automatically but not, as here demonstrated correctly, entirely associated with Morris's name. Morris was, for example, much more accepting of industrial process than some of his flowerchildren successors imagine. One of the key questions is: what exactly does "handmade" mean? Some of the answers, as presented in the work of Morris himself and such moderns as Danny Lane, Janice Tchalenko and Kaffe Fassett, are provocative.

Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester (0161-275 7450), Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, 2-5pm, until April 7. 🔕

ETIENNE DELAUNE Among its many unexpected riches the Ashmolean counts one of the largest collections in existence of French ornament drawings from the 16th century. The majority are attributed to the silversmith Etienne Delaune (1518-1578), active in Paris at the time of Henri II and Catherine de Medici. Delaune designed, on occasion, royal suits of armour and large pieces in gold and silver, but most of the exquisitely finished designs on vellum are for jewels, which played an important part in the politics of the period. Very few of the jewels themselves survive, but we know that some of these designs were made for the royal couple and for Diane de Poitiers, while others can denizens of the court as Mary Queen of Scots. There are also designs for jettons, often matched with finished pieces struck at the Paris Mints in the 1550s.

Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford (0865 278010), Tues-Sat, IOam-4pm; Sun 2-4pm. until May I2.

FLIS

Geoff Brown

LA CEREMONIE (15) The veteran French director Claude Chabrol's best film in years: a cool, darkly comic version of Ruth Rendell's novel A Judgement in Stone, updated and transferred to a windswept Brittany. Sandrine Bonnaire is the secretive housemaid whose position as the perfect help is undermined when she builds a friendship with the insolent village postmistress (Isabelle Huppert). Chabrol delights in the class distinctions that fuel the drama, though he is careful not to categorise any side as villain or victim, and his even-handed approach makes the violent climax all the more shocking. With Jacque-line Bisset and Jean-Pierre Cassel. MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Haymarket (0171-839 1527), Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470). Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148).

RESTORATION (15) Gaze with awe at Charles II's Court, and the wanton ways of the King's favour-ite physician, Robert Downey Jr. Early enjoyment of this lavish edition of Rose Tremain's novel drains away when the hero reforms and does good deeds. Director Michael Hoffman and his technical team work stylish wonders on a medium budget. Costumes and sets boggle the eyes: if only we cared more about the human beings. With Sam Neill. Meg Ryan and. briefly. Hugh Grant. MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772), Chelsea (0171-352 5096); NFT

(0171-928 3232): Odeons: Kensington (01426 914066). Swiss Cottage (01426 914098). West End (01426 915574); UCI Whiteleys (0171-792

JAZZ AND CABARET

Clive Davis

RITA COOLIDGE Back in the 1970s Mrs Kris Kristofferson, as she was then, took an old Jackie Wilson soul hit, Higher and Higher, and re-worked it as a funky piece of soft-rock. The daughter of a Baptist minister, she was re-interpreting rhythm and blues for a mainstream audience - and doing so very tastefully — long before the industry moguls had heard of Michael Bolton or Mariah Carey. Café Royal, Regent St. London WI (0171-437 9090), Tues 12 to Sat 30 (except Sundays and Mondays).

CHICK COREA/JESSICA WIL LIAMS The good news about Chick Corea's appearance this week is that he has left his whizbang fusion group at home. The American keyboard virtuoso will be working in an uncompromised acoustic format, leading a quarter including another Miles Datis acolyte, the saxophonist Bob Berg. A subtle colourist, Jessica Williams has worked her way to the front rank of piano players without hype! or assistance from the main labels. Dave Brubeck and Humphrey Lynelton have led the praise. She slips into Britain for a solo tour. reaching the South Bank's Purcell Room at the end of the month.



Acoustic keyboard: Chick Corea fronts a quartet at the Barbican

Corea: Barbican Centre. Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 8891). Mon II. Williams: Holywell Music Room.

Holywell St. Oxford (information 01993 702748), tomorrow: Gardner Arts Centre, Brighton (01273 685861). Tues 12: Darlington Arts Centre (a) (01325 483168), Fri 15: Caedmon Hall, Gateshead (a) (0191-477 3478). Sat 16.

◆ SENSE AND SENSIBILITY (U)

☐ 1953 Emma Fielding, Jacon Isaacs and Adam Fotz play the lead roles in Craig Raine's version of Racine's Andromache updated to an imagined lialy ruled by Mussolini's son. An wieresting control that hearly works Impressive acting Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) Mon-Sat, 9pm, mai Sat, 4pm, 6

THE CHANGING ROOM! David Storcy's fascinating play about a rugby league faam preparing for the weekly game Third in the season of Royal Court Classics Classics Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122) Mon-Sal, 7.30pm. mais Truss and Sal, 3pm. (2)

CHAPTER TWO Tom Contrard Snaron Gless play unaftached New Yorkers whiring lowards each other in Neil Simon's comedy. Not his best, Glolgud, Shairesbury Avenue, W1 (017) - 334 5065) Mon-Fn, 8pm Sat. 8 15pm, mais Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm

☐ THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED). New West End appearance of the RSC (Reduced appearance of the machine the same appearance of the popular, porty rough-handling of the Bard. The Complete History of America. abridged) plays Tuos Critarian, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1737) Wed-Sal, Sprt, Mats Thurs, 3prt, Sal, 5prt and Sun, 4prt (5)

□ EAST LYNNE Mrs Henry Wood 3 tamous tale at the downtall of Lady Isabel Vane, interestingly done, though Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181 859 7755) Mon-Sar, 7 45pm, mal Sar 2 30pm (5)

THE GLASS MENAGERIE, Sam her and daughter. Ben Walden is

Cornedy, Parton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sal, 7.30pm Sal, 3pm ☐ HEAVEN BY STORM The Umplica Brothers, otherwise the Australian acrobate, comedans: Sharie Dundas and Dave Collins, tring their ingernous and alburing show to London. Arts Great Newport Street WC2 10171-836 21321 Mon-Sat alpm. WEST END THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House-full, returns only Some seats available Seats at all prices

☐ LEE EVANS The rubber-borned comedian, here for a short season. Lyric, Shattesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5049). Mon-Fri, 8pm. Sat, 6pm and

AN EDEAL HUSBAND Trumphant return for Peter Half's production of Wildo's drama of political slease and scandal. The star cast includes Manu



Kim Wilde, Alistair Robins: Tommy, the Shaftesbury

Shew, Arma Carlaret, Pennie Downie Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SWI (0171-930 8909) Mon-Sal, 7 45pm mats Wedl and Sal, 3pm, (5) El AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with

Nicholas Woodeson as the ell-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan

Engel as the pillars of society.

Garrick, Channg Cross Road, WC2

(0171-494 5085) Mon-Fn, 7 45pm, Sa
8 15pm, mats Wed, 2,30pm, Sal, 5pm

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT PINIS Schofield plays the lad with the pretty packet in a nane-week rewall of the first Lloyd Webber/Rice creation. Labett's Apollo, Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0171-416 6062). Tue-Sat, 7 30pm; mais Thurs and Set, 3pm THE KING OF PRUSSIA. The first of

the "Four Comers" plays to be given a week's London run here. Nick Darke's steas s Zonaum miniment rock carea s arterasting-sounding play about 18th-century Comish smugglers, presented by the excellent Knaetholt Threathe. Domistr Watrehouse, Eartham Stroat. WC 10171-389-1732) Today, 4pm and 8pm (§) THE MISANTHROPE Non Statt and

Elizabeth McGovern in an updated version of Molière, too updated for the pay's real good but vigorously adad Young Vie. The Cur, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2 30pm. 

[8] L'I OBSERVE THE SONS OF ULSTER MARCHING TOWARDS THE SOMME TWO-week visit of Dublin's Abbey Theate with their superts production of Frank McCournes's classic about camaredens under helish hire. an, Sik Street, EC2 (0171-638)

☐ PRESENT LAUGHTER Puter Bowles plays Coward's exaggerated self-portrast in an only so-so production. Aldwych, The Addwych, WC2 (0171-379 3367) Mon-Sal, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sal, 4pm.

☐ SISTERS, BROTHERS, Stockholm's smech list of 1994: Stop Larrason's "viccously comic." play about sexual resisions between three stolers and their boyfrends. Part of the Gate Bernnale. Gate, 11 Pershindige Road, W11 (0171-229 0706) Mon-Sat, 7pm. [] SKYLIGHT Curstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Lla Williams in David Hare's dramateation of society's

conflicts in the form of a prickly reunion between two lovers. Wyndham's, Channg Cross, Road, WC2 [0171-369 1736] Mon-Sal, 8pm, mail Sal

**W SWEET PANIC:** Stephen Poliakoff's thought-provoking play about the awhitness of working as a child psychologist in an urban nightmare. Harnet Watter and Sackia Regives both excessent Hampstead, Swiss Copage Centre, NW3 (0171-72: 9301) Mon-Sat, Spm. Sat. 4pm (E)

A TALENT TO AMUSE The word; and music of Noel Coward, brought to life with statut, cometanes mischevous charm, by Peter Greenwall, Coward's accompanist for ten years Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836) 9987) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm TOMMY, See Critics' Choice, above

□ VALLEY SONG Alhoi Fugard's first

☐ YALLEY SONG Alhol Fugard's first play store the end of aparthed migrestingly mourns aspects of the past white welcomany, with degrees of influsiasm, the luture Fugard himself acis two roles Royal Court, Stoam Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) Today, 3.30 and 7.30pm, Final performances. THE WAY OF THE WORLD Congreve's most tamous correctly of love frustrated and fulfilled. Roger Allam and Fiona Shaw micresting as the lovers. Geraldine McEwan putstanding as a

trage: Lady Wishton. National (Lytellon), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Today, 2.15 and 7 30pm Final performances (5) LONG RUNNERS

LONG HUNNERS

Bluddy. Strand (0171-930 8800)

Dead Guilly. Apollo (0171-994

5070) Funny Money Playhous

(0171-839 401) Grease Domnton

(0171-94 5050) A Joseph Common

(0171-94 5050) A Joseph Common

(0171-95 10171-950 1734)

Diolivert Pallotum (0171-994

5020) B Startight Express Apollo

Victora (0171-828 8655) S Sunget

Boutevard, Addichi (0171-394

0055) . The Women in Black

Forture (0171-838 2238) Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

**NEW RELEASES** LA CERÉMONIE (15) See Crincs' Charge, above RESTORATION (15) See Critics Choice, above

UNDERGROUND [15] Exhausting contic epic about war in the Balkans from Env Rustunca. The top purawinner at Carness sast year. Clepham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Lunters (0171-836 061) MGM Futham Road (0171-370 2636) Richmond (0181-332 0030) CURRENT

◆ BABE (U) Glonous, vivacious larmly film about a sheep-herding pig, with a mm accur a sept-recomp pg, word cast of labsing animals. MGMa: Futham Road (0171-370 2006) Trocadero (3 (0171-434 0031) Pleza (§ (0171-437 1234) UCI Whiteleys (§ (0171-792 3332) BED OF ROSES (PG). Witting, where so in a farry-tale New York romance so in a farry-tale new York Parkers Street

end Christian States. Plaza (0171-437 1234) Passi (0171-437 1234)

• CASSIO (118) Scortsese's apic of Las Vegas in the 1970s' glorious background detail, but the human drame flags. With Robert De Miro, Sharon Store and Joe Pasc. Empire & (0171-437 1234) MGMa: Baker Street (0171-335 9772) Fullham Road (0171-437 0236) Trocadero & (0171-437 (031) Octoon Kenshapton (01426 914696) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys & (0171-737 2332)

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18) Nicotas Cage drinks himself to death Striking, intimate drama front director Miles Figgs With Elisabeth Strue. MCMLs: Fullharm Road (5) (0171-370 2536) Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Swiss Centire (071-439 4470) Warmer (5) (0171-437 4343) DEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS (15): Splendictly strateghent thrifter with Waller Mosley's novel. MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631) PRENCH TWIST (18): Jowel French terce with a lestalen angle from writer director Joseana Balasko, who co-stars terco with a resource upon the month of director Jossame Balasko, who co-state with Victoria Abril.
MGMes: Chelsea (0171-352 5098) Piccaellly (0171-437 35611 Teitenhau Court Road (0171-366 6148) Odeona Konalegoon (01426 914696) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Pilozy (0171-377-712) Screen/Balasko Shreet (017

OTHELLO (12) Laurence Fishburne as the jealoux Moor, Kenneth Branlagh as the schemang lago Lively version for general audiences. Director, Office Person. Oddonay, Haymarket (0):426 915353 Kensingston (01426 414659) Swissa Cottage (01426 914098) UCI Whitseleys (0):0171-323-3332) Warmer (5):0171-437-4343) Wattermans (0181-569 1176).

CINEMA GUIDE

FATHER OF THE BRIDE PART I

PG). Steve Martin faces the patter of tiny set. Bland comedy sequel, with Diane Kezion and Kriberly Writiarts.

MGM Trocedero (2017: 434 0031)

Odeons: Kensington (01429 914866

Swise Cottage (01429 914 088) LICI

Writindoya (2017: 792 3332)

♦ HEAT (15): LA detective Al Pacino nies to catch Robar De Niro's crooks Excellent epic etime disma from water-dractor. Michael Mann MGMite: Fulbam Road (2) (0171-370 2638) Trocadero (2) (0171-434 (031) Odeon Swites Cottago (01426 9) 4 089) UCI Whiteleys (2) (0171-792 3332) Warner (2) (0171-437 4343)

JOHNNY MINEMONIC (15) The Yakuca want the contents of Keanu Reause's head. Futurish: folly from cyberpunk author William Gibson Warmer (2) (0171-437 4343)

 JUMANJI (PG): Exhitarating romp about a rainfotest board gerne that co to life With Robin Williams
 MGMis: Cheirese (0171-352 5096)
 Fulfram Road © (0171-370 2636)
 Observer (01405-01405) Odeons: Kensingion (01426 914666) Leicester Square (01426 915683) Swist Cottage (01426 914098) UCI Wh (0171-792 3332)

. Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ullet ) on release across the country

◆ LOCH NESS (PG) Ted Danson looks © LOCK RESS (PG)\* 1637 D3750n looks for Nesse in a duf, harmless adventure. With Joely Richardson MGMs; Chelses (0171-352 5036) Trocadero ∰ (0171-343 0031) UCI Whiteleys ∰ (0171-792 3332) Warmer ∰ (0171-437 4343)

♦ A LITTLE PRINCESS (U). Marveflous



in Chabrol's La Cérémonie

Lissel Matthews as the boarding school girl plunged from riches to rage. McGliffs Chellase (0171-32-5095) Tottenham Court Road (0171-336-6148) Trocadero (2) (0171-434-0031) LIC! Whiteleys (2) (0171-792-3332) Warner (3) (0171-437-4343)

SABRINA (PG): Businessman Hamed Ford feits for the chauffeur's daughter, Julia Ormond, Sydney Politack directs Empire (0171-437 1234) MGM Trocadero (0171-434 0031)

Thompson and kate Winslet as sisters Thompson and kate Winslet as sisters with different approaches to romance. Director, Ang Lee Barbhean (S. (0171-638 8891) Chelsess (0171-351 3742) Chapters Picture House (0171-493 3323) Curzona: Mayfair (0171-399 1720) West End (0171-399 1720) Netting Hill Consett (S. (0171-727 6705) Ordeon Kensington (01426 914666) Ritay (0171-737 0121) Screen/Hill (S. (0171-435 3386)

STRANGE DAYS (18): Uncomfo a si HANGE DAYS (13) Uncommune apocalyptic drama, with Raigh Termes as a trafficker in virtual reality. With Angels Bassell. Director, Kalhryn Bigelow MGM Trocadero ® (0171-434 0031) Phasis (0171-437 1234) UCI Whiteleys © (0171-792 3332) Warmer © (0171-437 4343)

◆ TRAINSPOTTING (18) Abresive look ◆ TRAINSPOTTING (18) Abresses look at jurke life, from Invine Walsh's novel, made by the Shallow Graws team, With Even McGregor and Even Brenner. Berbican & (0171-638 8891) Clephem Picture (0171-498 3323) Gate & (0171-727 4043) MGBits: Chelses (0171-352 5096) Fullitam Rd (0171-370 258) Haymaricat (0171-839 1527) Totlenham CR Rd (0171-836 6148) Odeoner Martie Arch (014-68 914501) Swisse Cottlage (01426 914038) Phoembs (0181-883 233) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Balace (0171-835 2772) Screen/Green (0171-236 3520) UCI Whiteleys & (0171-732 1 3332) Wanner & (0171-437 4343)

ULYSSES' GAZE (PG). Portentous spic with striking moments from Greak master Theo Angelopoulos, with Harvey Ketel at a Birn-maker journeying through the Renoir (0171-837 8402) File (0171-254 6677)

 WHEN SATURDAY COMES (15).
Can Sean Bean make the grade with
Sheffield Lighted? Do we care? With Emily Can Sean Bean make the grade with Sherheld United? Do we care? With Emily Uoyd Orector, Mana Gesse Odeon West End (01426 915574) UCI Whiteleys (0171-792 3332) WITHINAIL & I (15): Revival of Bruce Robinson's quirky cut comedy, with Richard E. Gram and Paul McGant as would-be actors miserable in the Lake

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Continued from page 1 somehow shameful, whereas the younger generation have a more relaxed view. Take the Packers, a young couple who live in Wellingborough. Northamptonshire. Erika Packer told me that the marriage guidance counselling she and her husband, Clive, received from Denise Knowles, who works at the Northamptonshire branch of Relate, helped them to talk to each other with

greater clarity and tenderness.

The couple met in the playground beneath the old castle walls of Kimbolton School After Clive had been away to university he came back for Erika, and she was only 18 when they married on October 3, three and a half years ago. It wasn't long before the rows started, over money. Quite simply. Clive, who is now 27 and a satellite communications engineer, found that the way Erika frittered money clashed with his own desire - probably too strong he now admits, but part of his upbringing - to hang on to what he earns.

Erika remembers: "I was quietly furious the whole time and anything would provoke me, but I wouldn't say anything. Not anything.

Stubborn silence is a deadly weapon, but Clive, equally stubbornly devoted to their marriage, responded by look-ing up Relate in the telephone book. He rang on a Monday and took his hostile wife along to an interview on Thursday of the same week.

After ten £30 sessions, their mutual relief is tangible. "I don't think marriage problems and counselling should be all secret and taboo as it seems to be for some people," Erika says. It's not an easy ride. The nice lady won't stick it back together just like that."

Mrs Knowles made them listen properly. "We were full of misunderstanding," Clive says. "We just expected each other to understand half statements. Because you are married you sometimes think your partner should pick things up, and then you resent it when they don't. I worried, but thought she didn't, and now I understand how she was worrying but having different anxieties. The counselling did so much good. I am happy that people should know we are happy now.'

Sally Banks is another who has seen the benefit of counselling. She went to the London Marriage Guidance Council when her last marriage was failing. Sally had just set up her Watford-based film comwanted to work long hours. Neither she nor her husband had properly sorted out their expectations of marriage; when they would have babies. who would earn more. He thought that bringing home the bacon was his province and that she would slip into motherhood; not what Sally

thought.
We hadn't discussed our expectations before the marriage," she says. "We just sort of talked in euphemisms and, because we were in love, hoped things would work out. But we were going in different directions. I needed to put in long hours with my new company, and babies were way into the future.

Our divorce was friendly. probably helped by the

London Marriage Guidance people. Now I am married to Paul who is an expert on making videos, which is good because it's allied to what I do. We discussed our expectations before we married, like where we were going to live. And babies are on the agen-

Both Renate Olins, a director of LMG, and Lucy Selleck, a counsellor with Relate, say that the greatest cause of marriage breakdown is lack of communication tied to two different sets of expectations.

In Mrs Selleck's drawing room, with the petit point footstool and dried flowers in the grate, it's hard to imagine a wife telling the 41-year-old counsellor about the time she poured a saucepan of spaghetti bolognaise over her hus-band's head; or a husband admitting that he needed to wear red high heels during sex with his wife.

"In the first case the wife was just trying to get a reaction out of her too laid back man," Mrs Selleck says urbanely. "He said nothing. just went off and had a shower, so he had to learn to react more emotionally to her. In the red shoes case the wife got used to it. It's surprising how many women who come home and find their husband





Even the most propitious marriages can end in tears unless couples are clear about their expectations. The Princess of Wales has turned to counselling to help her to cope with divorce



Clive and Erika Packer learnt to listen to each other

wearing their clothes learn to get along with it in a

Mrs Selleck sees a common cause of problems in the huge few decades. "There's a lack of job security. We saw our parents in pretty set roles. Our own children will be different because they have been brought up differently. But people in their twenties still have an idea from their parents of how it was and expect something from marriage that's gone.

"Many women say they want to work, but secretly expect to be supported. Men still see themselves as the breadwinner but with redundancy what am I supposed to be?

and role swaps they feel, well, "People may not want to be like their parents, but they

pany nas a ciue wna

Being a man in marriage

instinctively seek a similar set-

up. Often they have never been listened to properly in childhood and continue this pattern in their marriage, so the other needs. A counsellor may be the first person who has ever listened, and the hour we give them may be the first time they have actually had to pay attention for that length of time. They are used to things like addressing remarks and not being answered. Sessions are an absolute revelation."

Most counsellors are women but there are some men. David Eggins, one of the few to work at Relate, at the Northamptonshire branch, says that, for the most part, his eender makes no odds.

guidance counselling is still regarded as a bit odd by 48 and married for the second time with twin teenage boys, "But nowadays when I go to the pub, men follow me around wanting to confess and I just want a quiet beer ... "I came into counselling

some," says Mr Eggins, who is

because I was effectively counselled myself, by a man, when my first marriage was breaking up because we couldn't have children. I was so touched that I wanted to put something back."

The effectiveness of male as opposed to female counsellors is roughly the same in so far as these things can be measured.

inderfunding of counselling organisations is a serious issue. Experts estimate that more than 400,000 people may soon be seeking help and, at the LMG, Mrs Olins despairs about funds to provide cover. Francis Davis at Marriage Care, which serves Roman Catholics (6,000 clients a year), says many more people in rural or de-prived areas are in need but there just isn't the money.

All the guidance groups want to encourage more prewedding counselling, which usually amounts to a couple of sessions about expectations: where to live, who will be the when to have babies and so on. When similar plans were put forward by counselling groups in the United States a few weeks ago, they were met with ridicule here. But consider our legal aid bill for divorce. now running at £332 million a year, and the 632 children a day presented with the sadness of divorce, made more devastating by the fact that 40,000 fathers a year become cut off from their children. Some 12,750,000 people in Britain (half of them children) have been involved in divorce

one fifth of our population. Then consider the £3 million given by the Government in grants to the marriage guidance agencies and you see an imbalance which itself demonstrates how our attitude to the

problem lags so far behind

There is an explosion of unregulated counselling because of the huge need and, as Mrs Knowles, says: "God knows who can set themselves up." Indeed there is nothing to stop anyone setting themselves up as a counsellor. My own bad experiences with counselling shows how easy it is to go wrong. Magazines such as Loot and Private Eye are full of relationship counselling adverts, put in by everyone from Harley Street hypnotherapists to a man in Hendon who I rang out of curiosity only to be told that he had to rush off to his other job, as a security man in Grosvenor Square. There is even an advert for telephone counselling, but every time I rang the

answerphone was on. if the experts had the money to help it would be better than this lottery. And better if we jettison the muddled attitude towards marriage guidance so that, in a country with twice the divorce rate of the rest of

 Some names in this feature have been changed.

partner. 6 Violence. Often copied from childhood

Europe, we can radically shift our thinking about marriage

and divorce.

IS YOUR MARRIAGE IN TROUBLE?

NONE of these means that your divorce is imminent. They are the flash points commonly recognised by Relate and the LMG.

An affair, never forgotten and never quite forgiven. The breaking of trust.

2 The first haby: men can stop seeing their wife as a sexual being and think of her as a mother (worse still, their mother). The baby intrudes, takes its mother's time and

husband gets jealous. 3 The "accidental baby". When one partner doesn't want children and the other does, an accident provokes long-term resentment

even if the father loves his child. Age gap, ten years or more. The different habits of different generations and lower energy levels of the older partner. If it's an

older woman, her inability to have a child. Marrying a twin or triplet. Multiple birth children can have identity problems as adults, preferring their sibling to their

experience. Women with violent fathers tend to marry violent husbands.

Redundancy. Wives can't cope with the changed circumstances. Husbands can't cope with the shame.

8 Starting a business at home. 9 Marrying a different race, or class. Habits,

traditions and language grate.

10 If it's always the wife who telephones his mother. Il Not talking to each other.

12 Money and different approaches to it. 13 Lack of job security, leading to long hours.

14 Bringing office behaviour home. 15 Sex problems

16 The mid-life crisis for both sexes. 17 The empty nest syndrome.

l8 An overpowerful mother-in-law, or father-

19 Possessiveness. Where a husband has a very young sibling, he may have resented it in childhood and over jealously, not want to share his wife. 20 Alcoholism.

21 Infertility.

22 Where either partner is adopted.

23 Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. Weekends. When the couple are thrown together. 24 Retirement. The loss of status and change

in way of life. 25 Snoring and deafness.

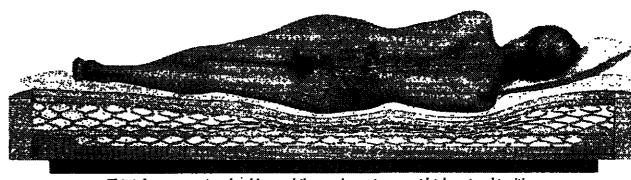
26 Bereavement, especially of a mother or 27 A child's serious long-term illness.

28 Child's death. 29 Unpunctuality.

30 Promises made and not kept.

### THE DUX BED.

### IT'S THE BED YOUR BACK HAS BEEN **ACHING FOR.**



This is how your spine should rest while you sleep - in a completely natural position.

A religious success story

Cover photograph of Lucy Seileck

by STEPHEN HARVEY

Ruth Gledhill worships at a bustling church in Brixton, south London



expected.

\$

short distance from the gentility of Chelsea, but I had shivered and wound up the car windows as I onto the turned Brixton Road and entered the nearest thing London has to a no-go area. Yet nothing was as I had

Fifteen years ago, Christ Church's Byzantine beauty was hidden by dirt, decay and pigeon droppings. The barbed wire around it kept out worshippers as well as vandals. The church was considered a dying relic of a bygone age and its demise was confidently expected. But the six refuseniks who went there each Sunday, even when the vicarage was so badly damaged by vandalism it was razed to the ground, refused to countenance its closure by the Church of England. Their appeal went to the Privy Council. They won, and acquired the curate from the neighbouring church,

the Rev Nigel Godfrey, as vicar. The church, despite its large size, now seems too small for everything that is happening there. New premises are being sought nearby for expansion. But Christ Church has been transfigured into one of the most extraordinary success stories in the established church - one to confound this century's ceaseless harbingers of religious doom.

I was there for Thursday's midday office, which was held in an adjoining flat occupied by a trainee woman priest, because an opera company had taken over the church. To the strains of La

Bohėme, we prayed for the mentally ill, the depressed and disabled.

Unlike so many churches, Christ Church does not shut its doors in the week and is sought out as a sanctuary by nearby office workers as well as the unemployed and mentally ill. With the help of £2 million raised by the congregation, from charities, the diocese and other supporters such as the Church Urban Fund, it has become a hive of voluntary and paid labour, with every space put to use. Even the belfry has been converted into living accom-

AT YOUR SERVICE

🖈 A one to five star guide 🖈

The Rev Nigel Godfrey. ARCHITECTURE: Built for 1,400 people in 1902 by Sir Arthur Beresford Pite in the style of the Byzantine revival. \*\*\* SERMON

None at our service, but the activity and atmosphere of the church spoke for itself. LITURGY: Hymn, reading, daily collect and prayers. Brief but lovely. \*\*\*\*

MUSIC: Mary Huston, training for the priesthood, accompanied us skilfully on guitar. \*\*

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Unbeatable lunch in the church's own Van Gogh cafe, named after the artist who once lived nearby. \*\*\* SPIRITUAL HIGH: | would not have believed this church had I not seen it. \*\*\*\*

modation. Father Godfrey prefers to camp out beneath the rafters. His new vicarage has been handed over to the volunteers who work in the church. Hundreds of people pass through the

doors on Sunday. Different denominations take it in turns to meet beneath the magnificent dome. During the week, the building's excellent acoustics make it popular with musicians, generating useful income. Staff, volunteers and any passing worshipper can follow the Franciscan cycle of daily prayers. The church offices are built onto a

balcony overlooking the nave. Beneath is a space converted into a meeting area for local groups and societies. A small, intimate chapel and library have been built into the church and there is a thriving charity shop and cafe.

Runner-up in the recent Church
Urban Fund's Keystones competition to

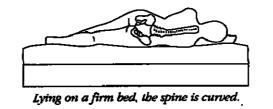
find churches which best serve their local community, it has turned its hall behind into a complex of workshops. Theft and vandalism remain daily realities, and windows are safeguarded

with attractive metal defences. With its bustle and vibrancy, this church bore comparison with the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem - although in Brixton there was more harmony. I left feeling reinvigorated, but could not help saying a prayer of thanks that my car remained where I had left it.

Christ Church, 96 Brixton Road, North Brixton, London SW9 6BE. Tel: 0171-587

Entry coupon for Preacher of the Year: see The Times Home News pages in

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## New machines at the cutting edge

ine turf and gravel paths or drives can make sorry finds its way on to the lawns. spun from the wheels of cars or carried by wellies. Then it gets into lawnmowers, jamming between the bottom blade and the cylinder and spoiling the cutting edges. The result can be a streak of unkempt grass in an other-

wise immaculate sward. The rotating blades of the cylinder and the bottom blade should meet like scissors, and when one of the blades is damaged the only way to restore full contact is to have it reground. Until recently that meant taking the whole machine to the repairers. Now Atco-

Qualcast launched a range of mowers with a removable cylinder and bottom blade cassette, which is less cumbersome to take to a repairer for regrinding. It is called the OX (Quick Exchange) system and is available in the Atco. Qualcast and Suffolk Punch ranges. (Rival manufacturer Dennis has a similar system but its machines are aimed at the professional market) And why could

you not take the

cylinder out of an old-style mower? wen you could, but it meant disconnecting drives, handling the sharp blades and, of course, if the bottom blade was damaged it was easier to give the whole machine to the repairer so that he could set it up to cut properly after regrinding

The QX system requires the removal of a few nuts and bolts, after which the cassette can be pulled out by its carrying handle. It is not exactly child's play but, then, I would not wish to use a mower whose blades were fixed in any less securely. (EC safety legislation is now so restrictive that too much safety rather than

Blade cassettes

can make

repairs a great deal easier

too little is usually the problem. On some rotary mowers the engine is designed to cut out every time you stop to empty the grass box. Barmy.)

There are many advantages to the QX system. DIY mechanics can do their own servicing in winter and pay only to have the blade unit sharpened. Little-used mowers may go perhaps two years

Aico s removable cylinder/bottom blade cassette

have the blade unit sharpened

each year. Atco-Oualcast

hopes to persuade its service

agents to stock spare cassettes

To be fair to rivals of Atco-

Qualcust and Dennis, the idea

of removable cutting units on

triple mowers has been

around for years. These are

the mowers, usually of the

ride-on type, which trail a trio

of hydraulic cylinder cutting

units. Each unit is relatively

easy to drop from the machine

but is nowhere near as man-

pedestrian use, the cassette is a

Among smaller mowers for

ageable as the Atco cassette.

to lend to customers.

that all cylinder mower owners spend the summer going backwards and forwards with blades for repair. Most seasons will pass without accident, and a removable blade is probably of greatest advanage to the lawn perfectionist The clever thing about the QX system is that, having de-

veloped a removable cutting cassette, the logical conclusion (which Atco and Dennis have reached) is to see what else can be slotted into the machine. The obvious choice was a scarifier. and all QX models can double up as a powered scarifier. The larger petrol machines for bigger areas, can take a

20in-wide scarifier, but the electric machines stop at 14in. This is just as I would hope, because scarifying is a tough business and will pass more vibration and general wear and tear into the machine than simple mowing. The tines (little rakes) which do the work are set in a spiral arrangement on the cassette so that, as it rotates, contact with the lawn is constant and even, and the

vibration minim-

ised. Wear and tear

apart, combining a

mower and scarifibetween full servicing but er in one machine makes sense, not least because it is one less machine clogging up the garden shed and one less engine to service.

> ● Atco-Qualcast, Suffolk Works, Milton Road East Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 IEY (0!449 612183), makes mowerscarifiers for domestic gardens from £170, and heavy-duty moves scarifiers from £350. Dennis. Ashbourne Road. Kirk Langley. Derby DE6 4NJ (01332 824777). makes heavy-duty mower scarifiers from E2,200. plus VAT. Ransomes (Sims and Jefferies). Ransomes Way. Ipswich IP3 9QG (01473 27(000). makes quality large-cylinder mowers from £1,510, plus VAT.



## The art of coarse mowing

The happy day is fast approaching when you haul the mower from the garden shed, give a sharp pull on the starter cord and . . . it breaks.

Even if it doesn't, the odds are the engine won't start, the blades are rusty, or the grass has already grown too long to cut except by touring to and fro, to and fro until sunset. For most of us, immaculate-

ly striped lawns are as attainable as the dark side of the moon. So why not join the Company of Coarse Mowers. folk who get their fun not from the velvety sheen of the lawn but from unrepentently thumbing their noses at the rules? once bought a book titled Be Your Own Lawn Expert, by Dr D.G. Hessayon. On page I it asked you to classify your lawn: was it first class, second

class or something in between? Mine was BA Calcutta (failed). Coarse Mowers read every-

thing that is written about lawn care, but only to disregard it. Every autumn they rejoice in the annual articles telling them how to put their mowers to bed for the winter. The master of this prose-form is W.F. Deedes, better known as Lord Deedes, whose mower articles sing from the page.

He recommends, inter alia, that sumps should be drained and refilled, fuel tanks should be drained using a pipene) and cleaned Exernally with a cloth-wrapped screwdriver, that the spark plug is removed and "an eggspoon of oil" is dropped on the piston head. Oil filters should be removed and cleaned in detergent, boiled linseed oil applied to the rollers (if made of wood) and so on, and on, and on. It takes

a whole day. Coarse Mowers do none of these things. They drive the mower into the shed, turn off It takes a whole minute.

But doesn't this shorten the nower's life? Of course, but even though this means losing some new shoots. mower's life? Of course, but the point is that Coarse Mowers never buy new machines, or get the old ones serviced. They acquire machines from friends, or from eccentrics who buy them at country auctions

TIP 1: it is nearly always cheaper to buy a second-hand mower than to get one

One of my small collection, a Toro rotary, cost me £35 at least ten years ago and has been going, more or less, ever since. It once had a self-starter and battery, but that was long before I owned it. We Coarse Mowers disdain such frippery devices. The only way to get this mower started is to wind a cord around the pulley, yank hard grip the roaring machine with both hands, and take off like Linford Christie.

Starting mowers after a winter of neglect is one of the treats of spring.

TIP 2 if it won't start, take the plug out, wave it around in the air, clean it with a grubby handkerchief and put

This won't do any good but it shows you mean well. Or are, they become better than

to established canes.

parsnips and summer spinach.

worst mower I ever owned. He took the plug out, cleaned it and then rubbed the electrodes with an ordinary lead pencil. The graphite in the pencil was supposed to make the spark leap with unaccustomed zeal between the points. Does it work? Heaven knows.

you could try a trick taught me

by a man who sold me the

but it makes you feel better. TIP 3: if it won't start, try taking out the air filter. If you haven't followed ad-

vice about cleaning the filter what do I mean, if - it will be clogged. An engine once given a chance to breathe will often go. Then you can put the dirty filter back in again.

TIP 4: never get rid of old mowers if you can possibly find somewhere to store

WEEKEND TASKS

● Cut down newly planted raspberry canes to 9in high. Apply potash

Begin outdoor sowings of broad beans, brussels sprouts, carrots,

Stand pots of flowered narcissi or hyacinths in a light, cool place, such as a cold frame, to die down, or plant out in the garden.

There will always come a day when, however awful they the one you are using. And if like me, you have a weakness for a particular brand, there is always the chance of cannibalising parts. "Sooner or Late: You'll buy Another Hayter" is my motto.

What to do with the cuttings is another problem area. Some years ago an academic from. I think, Reading University, declared that cuttings were best left to moulder on the ground. As this takes far less effort than collecting them, I naturally seized on the advice. The result was a lawn so full of thatch that it could have reroofed Anne Hathaway's esttage. Rotten advice, Reading.

So now I collect the cuttings and pile them into what are laughingly called compost heaps. Grass doesn't compost, actually: not even if you add chopped up copies of The Times or compost accelerator: not even if you turn the heap weekly (not that I have ever tried this, but I just know it

wouldn't work). what emerges from m heaps is not compost but foulsmelling silage. The only member of the household to appreciate it is the dog, who plunges his face and paws into it and then trots indoors. But, spread on the vegetable garden and worked in, the silage eventually disappears, and it

doesn't seem to do much harm.

### **HOMES & GARDENS**

### GARDENING OFFER - SNOWDROPS IN THE GREEN



Snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis) have been spectacular this year and are a must for the early Spring Garden. If you would like a drift of these in your garden, now is the time to plant them—whilst the leaves are still green.

To-day, we are offering 100 double snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis flore pleno) for just £9.95. All prices include postage and packing.

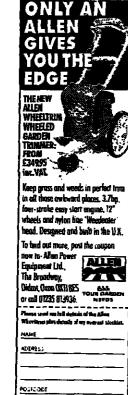
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STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters

At the back of my house, and shaded by it is a steep earth bank.

At the back of my house, and shaded by caprea. It is a male clone and has golden pussy wil-During heavy rain, water washes the soil down the bank. What ground cover plants would stabilise the soil? - G.A. Taylor. North Curry. Somerset.

You need plants that bind tightly under the soil as well as on the surface, so plants with only a tap root will not do. You also need plants which, if not evergreen, retain cover through the winter to prevent erosion. Grass is the most efficient cover. Otherwise, try Geranium macrorrhizum, pulmonarias. Alchemilla mollis, bergenias, lily of the valley, day lilies, male ferns, hostas. Persicaria affinis, Solo-mon's seal, and Trachystemon orientalis. Plant more thickly than is necessary to speed up cover.

I have a weeping 'Kil-marnock' willow on a 28in stem in a mixed border. How can I maintain its umbrella effect, have plenty of "pussies", and not have branches reaching the ground? - Mrs G. H. Preston. Lymington. Hampshire.

A This form of Salix caprea is grown for its stiff, weeping habit, and must be grafted on to a stem

low catkins. (The silver catkin form is known as Weeping Sally.) To keep it well-flowered and healthy, and to maintain a regular, fresh fountain of weeping stems, requires regular cutting. This is done by thinning the canopy and shortening back some growths at the top. The flowers are produced best on the branches which receieve the most light, so it is important not to to take off all the outer branches when thinnning. The longer branches may be shortened back in autumn so that they do not sweep the ground.

This is a curiously formal plant, and not everyone's favourite. It is widely available as a waist-high standard, but it might be interesting to use it on a 6ft or 7ft stem as curtains to a pergola or weeping over the top of a wall.

Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers. Weekend, The Times, I Pennington St. London El 9XN. We regret that few pery. We regret that Jew per-sonal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal respon-sibility. The Times also regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.

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GREE DAY

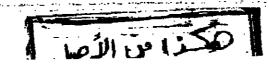
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## **BOOKS**

# the years

Derwent May hails half a

century of Penguin Classics

ome readers are going to get a frisson of nostalgia when they go into a bookshop this weekend. They will see on the shalves the course and the shelves the cover — pale brown with a blue ship on it of E. V. Rieu's translation of *The Odyssey*, which launched the Penguin launched Classics series 50 years ago. Penguin Books has

brought out a facsimile of this epoch-making book, at £5, as part of its anniversary celebrations for the series. Rieu had begun his transla-tion before the Second World War, and finished it in 1944 to the sound of VI and V2 explosions - an accompaniment," he said, which would have chimed in better with the more warlike *Iliad*".

The Odyssev proved, however, to be the book of the peace. As the Penguin historian, Steve Hare, has said, the story of Odysseus "perfectly summed up the difficulties faced by thousands returning home to people and places that might be almost forgotten".

But there was more to its success than that. Penguin books had become close companions of innumerable people during the war, both cheering them up and feeding a new longing for knowledge. Penguins were trusted. So when The Odyssey came out, as the first of a new series that promised to bring the great foreign classics to the man in the street in fresh, readable and accurate translations, there was a tremendous rush to buy it, and eventually it sold three million copies.

Rieu was appointed editor of the series, and soon new volumes translated by first-class writers were flowing in. Robert Graves asked if he could do Apuleius's The Golden Ass. ("The obscenity is not impossible by 1946 standards," he told Rieu). Dorothy Sayers did Dante. She wrote a verse to be pinned up at the bookbinders, to prevent them mixing up the sheets with The title of the book you

is The INFERNO please bear this in mind; The English word is HELL, so you will know

In case of doubt, exactly where to go. Russian, Spanish, Norwegian and Far Eastern classics, among others, soon joined the list, and in 1966 the Penguin English Li-brary was started as a sister

series.
Pelican Classics — new editions of important books on philosophy, history and politics — and the Penguin American Library completed the picture, and all four series were merged under the name Penguin Classics in 1986. By now the series classics" because of the unmistakable black or blackpanelled covers.

To mark this year's fifti-

eth anniversary, a whole new batch of volumes has just appeared. A particularly striking new group is The Psalms in English, Virgil in English (both £8.99), Homer in English (both £9.99). The Psalms for example, has a Psalms, for example, has a brilliant introductory essay by its editor, the late Donald Davie, investigating the original character of the psalms, and wittily but sympathetically bringing out the way English translators have Christanised them. The sturdy collection of English versions ranges from Sir Thomas Wyatt to Thomas Hardy and ends with the translator who Davie says will be "most influential in the forseeable future". David L. Frost, 150 of whose versions are in the Alternative Service Book.

The other three volumes are equally wide-ranging. and Horace also includes English poems that have been decisively influenced by Horace (concluding with one by Davie).

s a companion to Rieu's Odyssey, we now get Alexander Pope's verse *Iliad* (£16), which Samuel Johnson thought was "the greatest version of poetry the world has ever seen". All Pope's own notes are included. Love-Letters between a Nobleman and His Sister, an almost forgotten novel of adultery at Charles II's court by the Restoration dramatist Aphra Behn, is dusted down and given a new chance (£6.99).

Other names that beckon from the new list are Euripides, Chaucer, Anne Bronté, Potocki, Kierkegaard and Lady Murasaki, who was tutor to the Empress of Japan 1,000 years ago. Penguin Books may have had its upheavals lately - but clearly it has not lost sight of its original ambitions.

## Riper with Cookson's private recipe

CATHERINE COOKSON has written more than 75 novels. She is a Dame of the British Empire, a publishing phenomeron. a woman of remarkable personal generosity and a writer whose compulsion to write is matched only by her readers' eager-

ness to consume.

Bought worldwide, televised, serialised, one title succeeds the next.

They feed an appetite which demands the familiar. Readers want to be in Cookson Country, and they know its topography and characters as intimately as Cookson does.

Cookson novels are about hard-ship, the intractability of life and of individuals, the struggle first to survive and next to make sense of one's survival. Humour, toughness, resolution and generosity are Cookson virtues, in a world which

The doyenne of popular women's fiction remains inimitable, says Helen Dunmore

THE UPSTART By Catherine Cookson Bantam Press, E16.99 ■ THE DEVIL YOU KNOW

Headline, £16.99 she often depicts as cold and violent. The scales are tipped against women.

son's novels are weighted and driven by her own early experiences of illegitimacy and poverty. This is what gives them power, even when they are flawed by melodrama.

sexually and economically. Cook-

The Upstart is a family story without a shred of cosiness. Samuel

Fairbrother, a successful shoe manufacturer, is torn by inner conflict and is disastrous in his impact on his wife and children. Cookson's skill lies in portraying this man with sympathy and insight, while not softening his children's alienation.

Cookson Country, like Coronation Street, has the extreme lifelikeness of somewhere that does not exist and probably could never have existed. But we want to believe that it exists. Vera Duckworth bawis across the bar in her own never-never land, and Gran in The Upstart declares: "I'll put what adjectives I like to women of God, and to anybody else who is as bloody tactless as she is."
To measure Cookson's achievement as a popular novelist, one has to look at her rivals. Josephine Cox, like Cookson. has a biography which is "as extraordinary as anything in her novels", to quote the back flap of her new novel, The Devil You Know, which contains five murders, two suicides, assorted assaults, illegiti-

macy and three weddings.

Much of the writing is formulaic and cliché-ridden. The plot turns on the flight to Blackburn of Sonny Fareham, who has discovered that her married lover is planning to impregnate her and then steal the baby for his barren wife. There is some carelessness in plotting. In an important scene Sonny goes alone to register her child, and Cox seems unaware that an unmarried woman



Cookson: a compulsion to write

cannot just name a man as father of her child when registering its birth

without any supporting evidence.
There are hints of vigour and shrewdness in The Devil You Know, but on the whole its weaknesses point up the strengths of Cookson's storytelling. In the specialised world of women's popular fiction. Cookson has created her own territory.



Making a splash: Jacqueline and Caroline Kennedy at Hyannis Port, photographed by Mark Shaw, 1959, from Life with Mother, studies of mothers and their children, by the editors of Life magazine (Little, Brown, £9.99)

### Hostages to their good fortune

THIS is a big book cunningly disguised as a small one. Its monumental themes of sin, loss, catharsis and redemption are rich seams buried deep in a landscape which shifts from the somnolent suburbs to the litter-strewn streets of inner-city London. In between, the fortress of a happy life is dismantled brick by brick

down to the barest, shabby frame. Every page is a testament to the storyteller's skill at drawing you into the lives of her characters. As a consummate actor can make you forget that he is acting. Moggach's observations about the awkward, tangled self-consciousness of a teenage girl, the working mother's guilt, the anxiety of parenthood and, more impressive still, the complicated inner lives of her sad, little villains are so vivid and so true that you can forget that this is fiction. And yet this is artful fiction

By Deborah Moggach Heineman, E14.99

indeed: the plot twists and turns and shocks like a knife plunging into a wound. Normal life for the Price family comes to an end at the beginning of the book, when they are the undeserving recipients of a free holiday to Florida, and their good fortune is captured by the local newspaper. Undeserving, because they are already so comfortably off: the large detached house; Hannah and Becky, the daughters, with their expensive education; Val. their interior designer mother, who keeps the fridge permanently stocked with Marks & Spencer's roulades; Morris, the angsty Jewish husband with his beloved security firm.

They are extravagantly well-off, accord-

ing to Eva, the agent of their downfall, who kidnaps Hannah with the bumbling help of her lover. Jon. Without giving too much away, it is probably safe to say that the Prices' troubles only start with what should be the happy ending. There are some lovely writerly touches: the bushes with their sound "like soft little hands rubbing together": Morris walking to the car, with the ransom money in a pair of supermarket bags, "weighed like a house-

wife with the price of his daughter". It is the telling detail as much as the thrust of the drama which makes this book so compelling. As the story closes in, Hannah learns to see feelingly, and a surprising coupling bears unexpected fruit in which lies the chance for renewal. Ripeness, we discover, is indeed all.

GINNY DOUGARY

# King's Road conspirators

THERE is something instincrively off-putting about a book which trumpets "hooray" from Stephen Fry on its dust acket even before publication. Add a few lines of self-consciously literary smart talk from Will Self and the whole thing begins to smack suspi-ciously of a conspiracy in luvviedom. A thriller for the chattering classes, by the chat-tering classes, about the chattering classes.

Most of this world would seem completely alien to anyone who lives outside the Bermuda triangle of smart-set London, from Notting Hill to Soho and South Kensington. David Huggins's characters inhabit a demi-monde coloured by brand names: the Shogun, the Timberlands, the Beck's and the Marlboro Lights, where the name itself is enough to define both the product and the lifestyle. Great lines such as "hair so black you could imagine Stan Lee inking in a blue highlight" will mean little to those unfamiliar with the charms of vintage Marvel comics.

But people like Steve and Tony, Liz and Mary, Alan and Claire really do exist. Theirs is a world of life or death in the design department, smalltime entrepreneurs on the fringes of the big-time world of fashion and business that lies forever a step or two beyond the end of King's Road.

Huggins has done the politically correct - and increasingly accurate — thing, by making the hard financial hustlers female, relegating the men to a world of fragile egos and physical violence. Steve and Tony are classic failed flowers of the 1980s, unable to survive the hard knocks of the recession-prone 1990s and cannon fodder for the MachiaBy David Huggins Picador, £12.99

vellian Alan and his corporate

strategist, Sally.

Tony is a drunk: Steve is off his trolley, or at least going that way, aided and abetted by all around him. As his hip, middle-class idyll collapses, he begins to wonder whether he or the world around him is the madder. Is a daily dose of lithium better or worse than the occasional snort of "coke" or regular "weed" abuse? Not 🖹 to mention other drugs, such

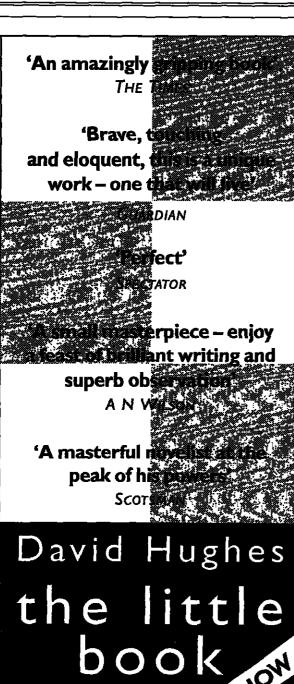


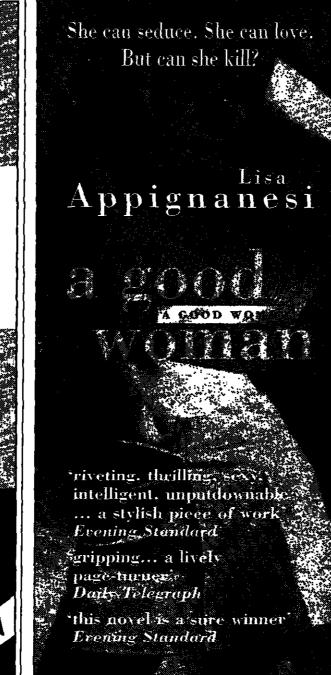
Huggins: local appeal

as handcuffs and black silk ties. The violence moves seamlessly from the psychological to the physical, culminating in a great blow-out of brutality. nicely relieved by an improbable deus ex machina. The Seventh Cavalry never practised tae kwon do.

This is an ephemeral little set piece but it is great entertainment if you are familiar with the landscape. Definitely one to be seen reading on the Central Line. If you are anyone who knows anyone.

PETER MILLAR





### Through a bottle, clearly

LEAVING LAS VEGAS By John O'Brien Pan. £4.99

JOHN O'BRIEN killed himself just before his novel.

Leaving Las Vegas, was optioned for film. The fact that Ben. his protagonist, drinks himself to death — O'Brien, an alcoholic, shot himself — has led to much myth-making; the success of Mike Figgis's movie has brought the hype to a high pitch. Disappointment would seem inevitable.

But this is a fine, painful book. Its central characters, Ben and Sera, do not give a damn what the world thinks of them; the same could be said of the work as a whole. Ben is a drunk determined to drink until he dies. Sera, with whom he falls in love, is a prostitute: how she came to be what she is is unexplored.

This gives the novel the flat. gleaming surface of a relentless present, and what better setting than Las Vegas, where all that counts is the next dollar, the next drink, the next card out of the shoe? The book pivots around Ben

and Sera's relationship, though to call their friendship. where each accepts the other absolutely on their own terms. redemptive would be wrong. But so strongly does O'Brien impress their feelings upon the reader that the bitter resolution seems just right.

O'Brien's writing demands attention for its honesty. This is the way things are, it seems to say. Do not make judgments until you have been here. Despite the haze of sex and alcohol, this novel has a clear gaze indeed.

ERICA WAGNER

## THE

## Martell invite you to a Grand National lunch

I greatest steeplechase. To celebrate its fifth year of sponsorship, Martell Cognac is offering readers of The Times an exclusive

invitation to a special gourmet luncheon. Guests will have the choice of dining at either Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons or

L'Ortolan, two of Britain's finest restaurants. Both have created a special menu of four

accompanied by a carefully chosen wine. After the leisurely lunch on Saturday, March 30. guests will watch the race on a large-screen television with a glass of Martell Cordon Bleu Cognac and special Martell Grand National chocolates.

Both restaurants have been awarded two Michelin stars.



L'ORTOLAN Pelicate tornato consorumé scentec with basil, spiked with a tiny brunoise of courgette and carrot

Terrine of fresh poached salmon set with Puy lentils, wrapped in cured salmon and garnished with a warm potato salad bound with olive oil

Medallions of lamb fillet wrapped in bacon, roasted, served with the cooking juices scented with mint and garnished with a fritter of pureed

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LE MANOIR AUX QUAT SAISONS Marinated Red Mullet Fillets, layered in a puree of salted cod Quail egg, spinach, parmesan and white muffle ravioti in a poultry jus and meuniere butter with Swiss chard

\*\*\*\* Roasted breast of Barbarie duck, served with cherries in a cinnamon scented jus

Mascarpone ice cream and coffee bean sauce

Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons, at Church Road, Great

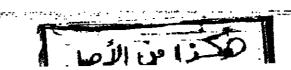
Milton. Oxfordshire offers the cuisine of Raymond Blanc, left. L'Ortolan, below, in Church Lane, Shinfield, Berkshire, is an elegant country restaurant set in an 18th-century vicarage and run by the award-winning team of Christine and John Burton-Race. Tickets are £65 per person, including luncheon, wines,

cognac, service and VAT. Numbers are strictly limited and applications will be treated on a first-come, first-



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John Cole: revealing portraits of politicians in action

AS IT SEEMED TO ME By John Cole Phoenix, E7.99

THESE recollections of a life spent at the heart of British politics are firmly subtitled "political memoirs". Apart from the occasional, affectionate reference to my long-suffering wife Madge". glimpsed from time to time in the background bringing up their four sons, John Cole reveals very little about his personal life.

This is not an impersonal book, however, for his enjoyment of the cut and thrust of politics and his appreciation of the people in it, rise from the page as clearly as they came across the airwaves in his unforgettable Ulster

voice during his years as Political Editor of the BBC. It is a voice of a man who

is committed to rational debate, and who fears that we have lost our ability to address public affairs seriously. His description of his years on The Guardian which he joined in 1956 and left as Deputy Editor in 1975 - make one realise how much the tone of journalism and of politics has changed

Trusted and liked by Members of all parties, from Harold Wilson to John Major. Cole provides revealing close-ups of politicians in action, as well as an enjoyable self-portrait of a wily old newsman at work.

complain about - it's just

that, at 38, she's stifled by

running her small-town cake

shop, her kids take her for

granted and her marriage, to

seems passionless and des-

perately dull. So, one stormy

afternoon, she impulsively

commandeers the family's

small sloop and embarks on

her own solo voyage of discovery. What makes the

book so compelling is

thoughtful, determined and

grittily humorous. A deeply

satisfying read that more

than matches Shirley Valen-

tine or Joan Barfoot's Gain-

THE RESUMPTION of the

IRA's bombing campaign has given this book a com-

nelling timeliness. Toolis, a

Republican sympathiser,

has spent ten years reporting

on the Troubles. The nation-

alist community trusts him

and, as a result, he has come

closer than any previous

journalist to explaining why

the "ceasefire" would never

be permanent. Although you

may recoil at the reverential

portrayal of zealotry, the

book evokes both pity and

Joanna's

ing Ground

**■ REBEL HEARTS** 

By Kevin Toolis

Picador, £6.99

personality:

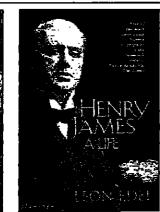
comfortable solicitor,



■ ELECTRICITY By Victoria Glendinning

GROWING up in London at the end of the 19th century, Charlotte Mortimer's world is constricted by convention. Peter Fisher marries her and takes her away to Hertfordshire, where he will be employed by the dashing Lord Godwin to wire his home for light. Glendinning's tale is a vibrant examination of a society in transition; parallels with the end of the 20th century spark

CASTING OFF By Libby Purves JOANNA GURNEY has nothing really dramatic to



HENRY JAMES MEMOIRS OF A By Leon Edel **GNOSTIC DWARF** Flamingo, £12.99 By David Madsen LEON EDEL has devoted

Dedalus, £8.99 THE COURSE of Peppe the his life to Henry James. This dwarf's life in the slums of single-volume biography is a revised, updated and abridged version of Edel's loth-century Rome changes when he meets the beautiful five-volume Life of Henry James; for this edition, the Laura who teaches him the doctrine of Gnosticism - the author takes advantage of theory that the Devil made "changes that have occurred the world and that man's in biographical writing" to true home is with God. After explore more fully the reashe is burnt for heresy her sons for the writer's lifelong father stalks and finally kills her persecutor. Madsen's tale of how Peppe becomes celihacy, the nature of the "obscure hurt" he suffered at 18, and his love for his the Pope's companion and is brother William. Edel paints forced to choose between his fascinating portrait of master and his beliefs dis-Edith Wharton's "most intiplays both erudition and a real storyteller's gift.

Hazel Leslie. Erica Wagner, Glyn Brown, Jason Cowley, Fiona Hook. Nicki Household

Raw chronicles of murderous evil do not help us to fathorn its nature, Bernard Levin says

## What is the mark of Cain?

LET us begin by asking, "Why are some of us good-natured and do nice things, and others apparently wicked and destructive?" I take it that the reader does not imagine that we will have found the answer before we close the book. But we can seek that elusive an-

The baddies are immediately fingered as the culprits, because villains naturally act by aggression, but it needs only a few moments to see that that is a fallacy. Aggression has two sides; where would we be without leadership or independence? Did not Winston Churchill give us the strength to fight right through the fire? And could he have done so without aggression? For that matter, where would Richard Branson be without it?

Very well, aggression is essential. But it is not the only quality that is necessary: more to the point, where does aggression stop and change into something called "wicked and destructive"?

We take ordinary men and women, and find that we cannot distinguish between them when one is an entirely decent person and the other a murderer. Bad homes can and do breed good people, and good homes can breed the worst in wickedness. Genes, blood, intelligence, body however we seek for the clue, it eludes us, and this book tries every possible avenue, yet you will close it no wiser than you

At that point, we meet really bad aggression: the two tenyear-olds who murdered the two-year-old James Bulger. He was "bludgeoned to death with bricks and an iron bar and his body left on a railway line to be cut in half". Yet the infant murderers had no idea that what they were doing was wicked; they had no idea of what wickedness was, or goodness either. But they were Unfortunately, we cannot distinguish a murderer from someone who would not hurt

By Brian Masters Doubleday, £16.99

But there is another avenue, not yet fully explored. It is a disturbing one — not disturbing as in the awful killing of the boy, but disturbing in a much closer form. For the author of this book, Brian Masters, has written not one book about evil, but four: the one we are now discussing. three more which have had a very considerable success -Killing for Company, The Shrine of Jeffrey Dahmer and Masters on Murder. Nothing very odd in that, you may say; Masters is a remarkably prolific author. But there is, running just beneath the surface, what I can only call a hideous gloating, in The Evil That Men Do. "For a week or more, Michael moved Monika's corpse around the house, frequently talking to it ... Then ... left it there for five months ... dumped the body

Here is another such story; Masters starts it by saying that "the reader should be warned" - a perfect come-on to make you turn immediately to something dreadful. Any

. first taking Monika's head

off so that he could keep it by

ay . . . "Michael [not the first Michael] ... tore his wife's face apart with his bare hands. He pulled her eyes out of their sockets and tore her tongue from its roots . . . '

There are many, many, such horrors in this book, let me give you just one more: "She was suspended naked from beams and whipped ... a wooden box was placed over her head . . . she was locked in a larger box, where she defe-cated and urinated and became filthy. The man ... held her under water until she nearly drowned, taking photo-I am not trying to make you

sick; I am trying to make the writer of this book see what he is doing. No doubt he will tell

The Times/Dillons Bestsellers

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Written all over their faces? Top (from left) Jeffrey Dahmer, Dennis Nilsen and Gary Gilmore; below, the abduction of James Bulger captured on a security video camera

us that these terrible things do happen, and he is only chronicling some of them. True; but that does not exculpate the juicy bits of such books.

For anyone with the smallest clue, the titles of those books should have rung bells; for Masters they did not. Indeed, in the book we are examining, the names of both Nilsen and Dahmer come up again and again and again and again; quotes from Nilsen through the book.

Naturally, Masters will does - argue that the book is a scholarly work, and he is only

£16.99 £16.99

Lost No.

trying to winnow evil from good. It is true that he sprinkles goodness — for instance saints and the saintly. He is also knowledgeable in these matters, and some of the knowledge is new. And, certainly, he does want to find out why some of us are wicked

and some good, though right to the end it eludes him, as it eludes everyone. Perhaps I should not have stressed the very blood-curthe more gentle readers might

faint, but because we have a

story with not a scrap of blood

or pain in it, but more horrible

than all the bloodstained and torture-filled ones — the Milgram experiment. You will find it on pages seven and eight, and I assure you that you will never forget it.

answer, and it is not likely that there will ever be one. We have to leave it where the Gilmore family left it.

Two brothers, Gary and Frank Gilmore: Gary lived a life of crime and was finally and peacable life. Their mother said, "One son picked up the gun. The other did not pick up the gun. Why?"

### Anatomy of a Japanese character

AUDREY HEPBURN'S NECK By Alan Brown Sceptre, £9.99

TOSHI OKAMOTO has a thing about American women. On his ninth birthday, he is taken to the cinema, where he falls in love with Audrey Hepburn. In contrast to the squat Japanese women he sees around him, the American with the long neck represents an alternative vision, not just

of womanhood but of life. Toshi's mother has already left the home and the bed she has shared with Toshi and his father since Toshi was born. No explanation is offered to Toshi from either of his parents, and he grows up confused and hurt, feeling guilty

and responsible.

He flees to Tokyo while his father continues to run the family shop and his mother works at a nearby inn. Here. there is plenty to draw but "an absence of colour, like the insides of an enormous machine". He gets a job as a comicbook illustrator, befriends a gay American, Paul, and enters a relationship with his English tutor. Jane, who becomes obsessed with him. When Toshi finds himself out of his depth with Jane, he is forced to examine why he is so drawn to outsiders, with painful consequences.

Audrey Hepburn's Neck is a wonderful novel. Not only is it extraordinarily evocative of the mishmash of cultures and mores which is modern Japan, but it has the same qualities reserve, restraint and underlying passion — of its central character. Toshi, and the two brilliantly reflect one another. Alan Brown captures, with great sensitivity, the isolation of a man whose best friend is a wealthy, gay American, whose girlfriends are always American, but whose parents do not speak to one another, nor to him, and who have offered him no hint of his own history. Gradually. Toshi realises that the Japan of his childhood is dying along with the Em-



Brown: sensitivity

peror, whose waning blood pressure is flashed in neon above the city. Americans come to Tokyo looking for something but, as Toshi points out, "everything foreigners like about Japan was already over before [he] was born". But Toshi, too, is looking, and eventually his search for love and a sense of identity reach an unexpected and profoundly moving climax.

This is a lovely book. It made me laugh, it made me cry, and it taught me lots I did not know about another country. You cannot ask much more of a novel.

MARY LOUDON

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### Deadlier than the Maelstrom HERBJØRG WASSMO'S

Norwegian bestseller opens on the edge of a precipice. It is a sunless morning, overshadowed by dark mountains. A wounded man on a sleigh is about to be pushed to his death by a woman. These first few paragraphs prefigure much of what is to come: ruthless and elemental female protagonist; nature at its bleakest and most dominant: simple, direct language broken down into unremittingly short sentences. It is as well to decide straight away whether you like this kind of thing, for a further 527 pages follow. Set in the more mono-

chrome reaches of the northern Norwegian coast in the middle of the last century, against a rather incidental background of the Crimean War, it is the story of a thoroughly dangerous woman inclined to destroy every man who comes near her via sexual

domination. There is clearly a high personal price to be paid for such misdeeds, however, as heroine Dina spends a lot of time in a wolfskin coat getting drunk and howling in the middle of the night. Lugging around a substantial baggage of ghosts seems to be par for

By Herbjørg Wassa Translated by Nadia M. Christensen Black Swan, £6.99

the course in Norway - must be those endless winters. This is more Nordic brutalism than magic realism; Dina's incorporeal visitors are those whose deaths she has caused, wilfully or otherwise, notably her mother, who was flayed alive by boiling lye and screamed for an entire day before dying.

The cycle of life on the

isolated coastal estate is evocatively described: the visiting merchants, the trading trips up the coastline, the seasonal household tasks. The mono tony they all endure is great. but there is plenty of bareback riding, bear hunting and salty sea voyages to stop the book from being depressing.

Wassmo has a bold and forceful stride to her prose. with a positively Lawrentian intensity in her treatment of sex, death and nature which, like Lawrence, hovers somewhere between the compelling and the faintly hilarious. A veritable Scandinavian saga.

HARRIET PATERSON

### TIMES BOOKS THURSDAY

The marital agonies of the British Royal Family: Alexander Chancellor on Queen

Caroline; Robert Blake looks back at the Empire; the trouble with making it new: the British Council's

latest anthology

'There are many imitators but this is the genuine article'

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### **NEW ON CD: Celine Dion**

overwrought; Gaillard's beguiling gab; Sibelius in the raw

**POP SINGLE** 

David Sinclair

■ THE FRAMES D.C. ZTT/WEA 0630-13971\*\* FRONTED by singer and chief songwriter Glen Hansard, the Frames D.C. have earned a loyal following in

their native Ireland, thanks



The Frames D.C.: for real

Monument, their debut single in Britain, is a churning rock track with a heavily syncopated bass line that has its provenance in the sound of the American grunge era rather than in the merry melodies of Britpop.

"I built a monument to every word that's passed be-tween us." Hansard sings in a clear, hard voice that echoes the straining tones of Eddie Vedder, and like the Pearl Jam singer. Hansard sounds as if he means it.

Raw, rocky and unfashionably for real, this lot are undoubtedly going to be a force to be reckoned with.

**POP ALBUM** 

**David Sinclair** 

**■** CELINE DION Falling into You Epic 483792\*

CELINE DION is one of those performers who start at treble forte and then work up to a climax (see also Meat Loaf. Bonnie Tyler). True to form, this new album is a marathon

of melodrama, which establishes a typically overwrought tone from the start with a thunderous Jim Steinman epic, It's All Coming Back To

A small army of songwriters and producers, including Diane Warren, Jean Jacques Goldman and Aldo Nova, furnish her with a certain amount of musical variety from the pop-reggae rhythm of Make You Happy to the slinky soul groove of Dreamin' of You — but the leverish pitch is unwavering.

The album's one and only heme is the love of a good man: how to find it, how to win it, how to keep it. "I will fight. I will bleed/I will lay down my life, if that's what you need," she vows in If That's What It Takes. "A mountain of stone, a door of steel can't stand in my way, the insists in I Don't Know.

Dion's problem lies not so much in the technical detail, which is faultless, as in her lack of credibility. All the songs are in the same emotional key, and the impression that she is going through the motions is reinforced by her choice of supper-club standards such as River Deep. Mountain High and Natural

A little Celine Dion goes a long way, and while there will be a lot of hits from this album, it is asking too much to swallow it all in one sitting.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ SLIM GAILLARD Anytime. Anyplace, Anywhere

Hep Jaz: CD-2020\*\* YES, it is ungainly in parts. And, yes, the journey through the byways of Britain on Everything's OK in the UK feels more like a world tour. Nevertheless this 1982 jam session in London has all the eccentric flair of one of Slim Gaillard's well-travelled zoot

Inventor of "vout", the impenetrable jive vocabulary NEW ON VIDEO: Chekhov down under; Kathy Bates under suspicion; pre-blacklist Polonsky

High Fliers. 15, 1994 MICHAEL BLAKEMORE'S film by turns charming, melancholy and Vanya and plonks it down on an Australian farm after the First World War. Chekhov's ageing professor is now a London theatre critic (played by Blakemore himself), who returns to his homestead with a new, bored wife. Upheaval follows. Blakemore is not interested in Merchant-Ivory finesse, and some of his strokes are broad. But apart from Greta Scaechi's routine flirt, the actors carry the film easily from mood to mood. Available to rent.

DOLORES CLAIBORNE ColumbiaTriStar, 18, 1995

version of Stephen King's novel about a wife and mother twice suspected of murder looks beyond questions of guilt or innocence to probe the characters' tortured lives, with images to match. But towering over the atmospheric visuals stands Kathy Bates's powerful performance as the hardbitten sourpuss, survivor of an abusive husband, who now stands accused of murdering the woman she keeps house for. Available to rent.

FORCE OF EVIL

Second Sight, PG, 1948 MESMERISING and brilliant thriller about New York racketeers, made by the short-lived Enterprise Studios, which was dedicated to the off-beat. Writer-director Abraham Polonsky took justified pains over the pungent, poetic dialogue. The gritty images have their own poetry, and there are memorable performances from John Garfield (a racketeer's lawyer with

that earned him a walk-on

part in Jack Kerouac's On The

Road, Gaillard was to be re-

discovered by the eager young

Absolute Beginners audience

in the period after this record

was made. As master of

ceremonies, overseeing guest appearances by Buddy Tate,

Jay McShann and England's own Digby Fairweather, he

spins his famous surreal pat-

ter on How High the Moon.

strums a mean guitar and

generally encourages every-

one to follow his manic lead.

Lurking behind the jester's

mask is a resourceful singer

into shapes that Fats Waller

who bends Honeysuckle Rose



Outback blues: Greta Scacchi and Sam Neill star in Country Life, Chekhov transplanted to Australia

sullied ideals), Thomas Gomez and Beatrice Pearson. A few years later, the black cloud of the blacklist descended, and Polonsky did not direct again until 1969.

M NOTHING BUT THE BEST

Lumiere, PG, 1964
HOMEGROWN comedies with fangs are not exactly ten a penny, but this one digs deep into the lifeblood of 1960s Britain, ruthlessly exploring the class system and the success itch. Alan Bates's estate-agent's clerk races to the top by hook, crook and murder after learning the ropes from Denholm Ellion. Director Clive Donner and scriptwriter Frederic Raphael ensure the satire is fast, barbed and, above all, funny. Colour photography by Nicolas Roeg.

THE YOUNG POISONER'S HANDBOOK

PolyGram. 15, 1995 ASSURED but depressing black comedy based on the true story of Graham Young, a north London

the Tyrolese who saves Marie

from falling over a cliff, then

gives a graceful performance.

as does Philippe Fourcade as

the French Sergeant, Sulpice.

a properly saintly figure. Rosa

Laghezza is distinctly unsaint-

ly as the Marquise de Berken-

field, who turns out to be

Marcello Panni draws lively

playing from the Munich or-

chestra in this short score,

and many familiar ones. How

into a British theatre again?

long before the 21st storms

Marie's mum.

schoolboy who subjects his family to experiments with toxic substances. Though Master Graham is bundled off to a hospital for the criminally insane, his poisonous career continues. So does the film: and any delight at the firm grip of director Benjamin Ross or Hugh O'Conor's performance slowly vanishes. Ross probably did not mean his first feature to be this nasty: but overkill has made it so.

GEOFF BROWN

ORCHESTRAL

Symphony No 5: En saga Lahti Symphony Orchestra/

VOLUME 38 of the Complete Sibelius series from the Swed-

In every respect, the familiar, final version is preferable Nevertheless, it is good to have the original version on disc very competently performed by the Lahti Symphony Or-

less dramatic).

December. Even so, the symphony took three more years

original version of 1915 tre-

corded here) and the final one

of 1919 (that generally per-formed) are both startling and

instructive. Originally the first

movement was cast in two

separate ones, and there are

numerous other differences,

of which the most obvious are the opening (no horn call) and the end (the hammerblows far

to reach its final form. The differences between the chestra under Osmo Vānskā Similarly, the original (1892) version of En saga is rawer in the elaboration of its material, yet that primitiveness is integral to the conception of the piece. New life for an invalu-

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

able musicological document

BACH Partita and Suites Maria Joao Pires DG 447 894-2\*\*

MARIA JOAO PIRES'S piano playing is primarily for herself: we, the listeners eavesdrop. So the keyboard suites of Bach, never intended for public performance, are

just the thing for her. The Praeludium of the great Partita No I in B flat trills itself into being at such an even, gentle pace that it sounds as if the music were always there. just waiting to drift into the earshot of the listener. Pires turns the Prelude of the English Suite No 3 in G minor into a full-blown Vivaldi-style concerto, solo and "orchestral" voices stamped out in bold decisive forms. She delights in the rhythmic ambiguities of the following dance movements, with the Sarabande a slow, introverted meditation on its own harmonic language. The final French Suite No 2 in C minor recreates in lucid converse the simplicity born of considerable revision by Bach. Not to be missed.

\* Worth hearing \*\* Worth considering

### John Higgins

OPERA

**■ DONIZETTI** La Fille du régiment

Gruberova/Laghezza/van der Walt/Fourcade/Munich Radio Orchestra/ Panni Nightingale NC070566-2\*\* BEFORE the arrival of this Nightingale set, only one complete version of Donizetti's rousing military comedy remained in the catalogue, the Decca version with Sutherland and Pavarotti made almost 30 years ago.

Marie. regimental "daughter" and mascot, found aban-

doned on the battlefield as a baby, is a gift to any soprano ready to unbutton a bit. Donizemi announces her arrival with a snatch of off-stage coloratura, but thereafter she has the habit of interrupting every song with a rataplan in praise of Napoleon's 21st Grenadiers. Marie may turn out to be of noble birth for the sake of the plot, but she is tomboy through and through.

Sutherland gave a thighthwacking performance. Edita Gruberova shows similar zest. Her voice has a tendency to harden at times, but she has plenty of high spirits and the coloratura is faultless.

Deon van der Walt is Tonio,

profits are going to the charity.

I Feel Like Going Home.

and strong.

cassette is £8.99).

#### joins the 21st to win her hand. **Barry Millington** Van der Walt does not flip out the multitude of top notes in the way Pavarotti did, but he **■ SIBELIUS**

Vänskā BIS CD-800\*\*

ish label BIS offers world premiere recordings of two familiar works in unfamiliar versions. The Fifth Symphony received its first performance which has no dud numbers in December 1915, but the composer was not satisfied and a second version was prepared for the following

## THE TIMES HAS JOINED WITH RENAULT AND EMI TO HELP RAISE MONEY FOR TOMMY'S CAMPAIGN

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RENAULT UK is linking up with The Times to offer all our readers the chance to win a fabulous Clio and 50 runners-up prizes of EM1's new compilation CD Baby Love, produced on behalf of Tommy's Campaign. Renault has adopted Tommy's

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Paul Weller Moon on

15. Sinead O Connor All Babies 16. Robert Palmer She Makes

most fulfilling and happy events. Yet, for an unacceptable number of parents. the experience can bring heartache. In the UK 40,000 babies are born too this complex area. A wide range of projects are now being funded by the

four women suffer the trauma of a miscarriage and one in 150 babies are lost through stillbirth. These figures have remained relatively unchanged for the past 50 years. Premature babies account

often weighing no more than a bag of sugar, spend the first few weeks in an incubator, fighting for their lives. Sadly, some do not survive and others may suffer some permanent disability such as cerebral palsy or breathing problems.

There have been enormous advances in the last few years into the care of premature babies but there remains a

Lucilla Poston, of St. Thomas's hospital, London. professor of fetal health for the Tommy's Campaign. leads a team of researchers who work in collaboration with other medical institu-

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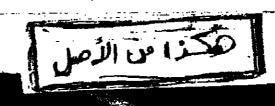
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## PROPERTY

## Study the farm before picking a winner

A canter round studs on the market in Europe and beyond

reeding horses is a rich man's game. It takes luck, as well as money and experience, to produce a horse that will win one of the classics and earn a fortune.

The bloodstock covering season runs from February to July, during which time a stallion can cover at least 40 to 50 mares. The fee for his services ranges from £500 to £25,000, depending on his race record and breeding background.

The secret of a good stud lies in the soil: free-draining limestone fed by its own spring water, with the right nutrients, especially calcium, produce prize-winning horses and foals. Add well-sheltered paddocks and you have an excellent breeding environment

The most famous studs in this country are around Newmarket. where soil conditions are ideal. Other well-known areas include the Cotswolds and Yorkshire.

Expect to pay £2,500 to £4,000 an acre for developed stud land, plus the value of house and buildings. says Rupert Sweeting of Knight Frank. You need four to five acres for each horse but there must be enough land to allow paddocks to recover." he says.

One of the most famous studs to come on the market in recent years is Warren Park in Newmarket, previously owned by Captain Marcos Lemos, who sold to Gerald Carroll about four years ago.

Warren Hill and Ashley Heath studs, brought together by Captain Lemos to form Warren Park, have produced winners of almost all the classies, including Julio Mariner, winner of the 1978 St Leger, and

Pebbles, who won the 1984 1,000 Guineas before being sold to Sheikh Mohammed.

Warren Park is now being sold by the receivers through Knight Frank for £3.8 million and includes the nine-bedroom Warren Hill House, with two staff flats, indoor pool and tennis courts, surrounded by gardens and 300 acres of stud land with four yards. Currently run as one stud, it has the scope to work as two main vards

Warren Hill has 16 loose boxes, foaling boxes and covering yard, workshop, offices and orangery. Ashley Heath includes a manager's house, seven cottages, two stallion boxes, foaling and loose boxes, covering yard and various administrative buildings.

A home beside the turf

HORSE LOVERS would be in their element with one of the houses

being built at the Mount Juliet Country Club, overlooking the River

Nore in Co Kilkenny, the horse-breeding heart of the Irish Republic.

There are plans to build 61 luxury houses on the 1,400 acre Mount Juliet estate, which includes the Ballylinch Stud Farm. The stud has produced winners of all the Irish and English classics, including

The Tetrarch, described as "the fastest horse in the history of the

turf", who won seven classic races in England and Ireland in 1913.

Residents may board mares at the stud, or they can join a blood-

stock syndicate. The complex includes an equestrian centre and 16

Six sites have been sold, each costing £150,000, and three houses

built. The three-quarter of an acre sites, in a mature woodland

setting, back onto an 18-hole golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus.

Properties must be built to specifications laid down by Mount Juliet, and the total cost for building a three to four-bedroom house,

Details: Patrick Hegarty, Mount Juliet Properties (00 3 53 5624455).

He subsequently sired a line of classic winners.

including land, will be £450,000 to £550,000.

miles of bridle paths for trekking.

Agents Jackson, Stops & Staff are selling Swettenham Hall Estate in Cheshire, on offer at £2 million. The Swettenham Stud originated here with well-known horses such as Gildoran, winner of the Ascot Gold Cup in 1984 and 85, owned by racing tycoon Robert Sangster, who sold the property to the present owner ten years ago. The 176-acre

estate, no longer a stud, comprises

an eight-bedroom. Grade II-listed

house, farmhouse, cottage, pool.

outbuildings and two stable blocks with 42 loose boxes. A smaller stud, the Manor

House at Ab Kettleby, near Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, is for sale at £390,000, through John D. Wood. The present owner, James Burridge, bred and reared Desert Orchid on the property. The five-bedroom, Grade II-listed house comes with nine loose boxes and 13.4 acres of gardens and paddocks.

The strong Irish flavour at next week's Cheltenham Festival is a reminder of the strength of horsebreeding in the Republic. The Curragh, near the famous racecourse west of Dublin, is soughtafter and expensive, priced from £4,000 to £5,000 an acre for undeveloped stud land. County Tipperary also has free-draining limestone land from £3,000 an acre. Studs in these areas are in short supply, particularly at the top of the market. Elsewhere, a small stud can be had for under E200,000, but the majority sell for between £400,000 and £800,000.

About 53 miles from Dublin, on the east coast of County Wexford, Borleagh Manor is available for around El million through Jackson Stops McCabe. Its most famous horse was Hardy Canute, whose descendants include Shirley Heights, winner of the English and Irish Derbies in 1978. The price includes a seven-bedroom Georgian house in 160 acres of parkland with 70 acres of sheltered paddocks. It has its own stream, ornamental lake, 20 loose boxes, and two cottages.

n France, the Orne region of

Warren Park, at Newmarket, built in the style of a French château, is on sale for £3.8 million and combines the two yards of Warren Hill and Ashley Heath studs

Normandy is prime horsebreeding country, with many famous studs, including the splendid Haras-du-Pin National Stud. There are plenty of studs for sale but few buyers, so most vendors will negotiate. Prices start at £121,000, which

will buy a stud in 24 acres with 19 loose boxes, various stable blocks, and a 19th-century "maison de maître", through Barbers.

Moving upmarket, Le Haras du

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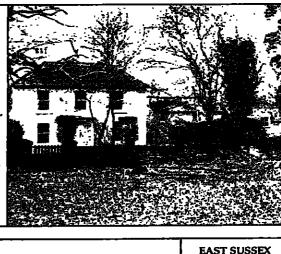
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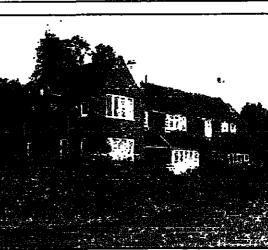
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## Sale fails to blossom in daffodil country

are within nodding distance and the view from the drawing room is uninterrupted across Ullswater to the Cumbrian fells. Yet Hawk How, a house that mirrors late-Victorian affluence and gentility, and a rarity among desirable Lakeland properties, has yet to find a buyer after nearly ten months.

Kyle Blue, of the estate agents Penrith Farmers & Kidds, remains optimistic, despite signals that interest at the top end of the property market in the rural northwest is subdued. He says that Hawk How is at the apex of Lakeland properties, with an initial asking price approaching £500,000, which may seem modest compared with substantial country properties elsewhere in Britain.

The house came on to the market in May last year and it would not have been unusual, he says, for a marketing campaign to have lasted several months before a sale was achieved. However, after nearly ten months, the house is still unsold. Hawk How was built at the turn of the century for a northeast shipping magnate when it was

fashionable for exceptionally rich

industrialists to provide themselves

Ronald Faux on why it takes more

than a fine view to sell a house on

Ullswater

with country retreats. The house is in three and a half acres of wooded grounds and gardens through which a fellside beck cascades in a series of waterfalls. The house is typical of the period, restrained in its solid "rustic traditional" style, with walls and roof of Buttermere green slate that blend with the craggy countryside around.

Building restrictions in the Lake

District National Park ensure that such properties have a scarcity value. It is impossible to add to the number of substantial homes set in fine grounds with commanding views. The house has four bedrooms, two bathrooms and a separate three-bedroom cottage. The sales campaign was directed towards the national and international market, and has attracted interest from clients, but no sale.

chain and cannot proceed further. An African tribal chief who claimed to have \$9.5 million (about £6.2 million) to spend on a country property in Britain seemed keen, and Mr Blue says: "The client insisted that Hawk How was exactly the property he was seeking. However, negotiations went on for five weeks but became difficult when the client demanded that a representative of the selling agent should go to Africa to assist with the currency transfer. We didn't send anybody and negotiations

"We did wonder how the client would enjoy the Cumbrian climate, and it seemed to us that there are some overseas buyers more interested in transferring large amounts of foreign currency from their own country than acquiring estates in Cumbria." Mr Blue says. Hawk How was inherited by the

present owners who are under no pressure to sell, but the property is in that misty area at the top end of the market where tens of thousands of pounds may separate the asking price and what is realisable. The sellers have dropped the price to £395,000, which represents excellent value for such a property.



Despite a drop of about £100,000 on the initial price, this house on Ullswater remains unsold

Pending a sale, the owners are renting out the house for holiday lets. However desirable the property

might seem, there are some complications of living half way along Ullswater in countryside whose very beauty makes it a honeypot for tourists. It would be a lengthy commute to any of the main Cumbrian towns, restricting the

market to retired executives or those able to work by computer from home, placing them in a grand league of tele-cottagers. Also, beauty being in the beholder's eye, their landscape taste would have to be more Landseer than Constable. and rain should never be allowed to dampen their enthusiasm for country living. The wettest place in

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Britain lies only two valleys away. Even so, rental from the cottage in the grounds of Hawk How as a holiday home could be expected to be nearly £12,000 a year and Mr Blue reckons that, with well-aimed marketing, rental from the house and cottage would together yield more than £25,000 a year.

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**QUINTA BEM** 

ALGARVE

such properties are rare, and will remain so because National Park rules restrict further development, Hawk How could become attractive either as a home or as an

investment," he says. "It is not unusual for properties in this sector to be still for sale after six or seven months," Mr Blue says. "Sellers who can batten down the hatches in preparation for a long campaign do so, and their position is stronger if they are not under pressure to drop substantial-

ly below the asking price.

ntil last year, the upper end of the market was moving freely, with good demand and sales relatively easy to achieve. Things have changed, even though the recession in house sales is supposed to be easing," he says.

Cash buyers, as ever, hold the strongest hand to negotiate a deal and, with expensive properties, have won substantial discounts. But buyers in the Cumbrian market are proving to be selective and keen to test the vendor's eagerness to sell, so that negotiations can take

on the air of a poker game.

A number of sales in the £300.000 region have been achieved this year but took longer than in years past. With the property market coming out of its winter hibernation, sellers, like Wordsworth's daffodils, are hoping for a suriny breakthrough.

Penrith Farmers & Kidds, Devonshire Chambers, Devonshire Street, Penrith, Cumbria CA117SS (01768 862135).

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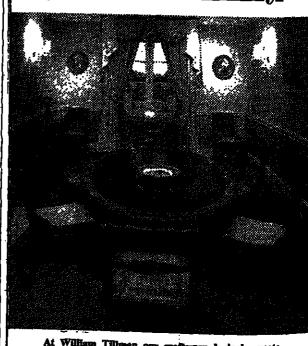
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## **SHOPPING**

## Bargains galore at the flick of a page

Big discounts on brand-name goods are available — if you know where to look

hoppers who like their dis-counts guaranteed should find plenty to interest them in The Good Deal Directony 1996. It contains 608 pages of shops, from north London to south Wirral, selling everything from last season's designer clothes to restored cast-iron baths, at up to 70

per cent off normal prices. The book, compiled by Noelle Walsh, lists factory and reject chain stores as well as individually owned high street and second-hand shops. It gives details of the best times of year to visit, where appointments are necessary and whether a mail order service is available.

Open the book at page 209 for Big and Tall, High & Mighty's discount shop in Winchester, Hampshire (01962 842685), selling outfits from the nationwide chain for larger or longer men. The stock is previous season, with a king size range for 60in waists selling at about 50 per cent below normal prices: wool mixture suits are down from £199 to £75.

Flick back to page 23 for a mixed season selection of second-hand, couture evening and day wear, sold by appointment in north London by Sheila Warren-Hill (0181-348 8282). Labels include Jasper Conran, Yves St Laurent and Escada. Try on a black velvet Place Vendome suit with red beading, sold initially for £4,000, now £350; a £200 black Versace body and jacket originally £2,000; or a Place Ven-

dôme slinky black dress at £350. For designer jewellery, page 33 lists Steinberg & Tolkein (0171-376 3660) in the King's Road, west

London, which stocks original 1920s to 1950s baubles from sources such as Chanel and Trifari. A collection of butterfly brooches which belonged to Lana Turner are expected to fetch between £40 and £200 each. A rare dragon jewellery set by the Californian maker Har is for sale for £5,000.

Scent to You on page 43, with branches in Surrey, Berkshire and Aberdeen (for branches, 0181-974 6231) and with a mail order service. sells designer perfumes at some of the cheapest prices around. John Paul Gaultier's Vendetta 100ml eau de toilette is reduced from £49.50 to £14.50; Sunflowers by Elizabeth Arden sells for £19.99 (recommended price £27.50).

Page 78 offers Cameo of Cowes, Isle of Wight (01983 297907), where you can browse through its stock of you can browse inrough its suck of unclaimed clothes, umbrellas, jewellery, purses, wigs and make-up from British Airways, London Transport and the Royal Mail.

The Uncollected Dry Cleaning Company, in Gateshead (0191-460 3195) and Newcastle upon Tyne.

(0191-233 0386), sells undamaged and unclaimed clothes such as Burberry men's and women's raincoats for £10. It recently had a size 14 Karl Lagerfeld two-piece evening outfit for £39. Current stock includes a white and navy Jean Paul Gaultier man's suit for £35 and Yves Saint Laurent trousers for £4.95. See page 161.
Dolls' clothes from Mrs Picker-

ing's (01692 670407) just outside Great Yarmouth (page 341) are guaranteed by the owner "not to fall to bits straight away", and are available to fit popular dolls such



Leather ankle-boot trainers for children, £12 from Purple Fish's warehouse shop in Stroud, Gloucestershire, one of hundreds of entries in The Good Deal Directory 1996

as Tiny Tears, Barbie, Sindy and Action Man. Prices from 40p for a Barbie skirt to £3 for the wedding dress. Special outfits can be made on request. Mail order only.

Also for younger family members is Cuddles Nursery Hire in Northampton (01604 642629), which hires out car seats, travel cots, high chairs and pushchairs, from £7.50 for a weekend (page 351). Other nursery hire shops are listed, some offering delivery services.

age 308 is devoted to the five branches of Nippers (for branches, 01732 832253) selling low cost, end-of-therange prams, cots, pushchairs, car seats, outdoor play equipment and toys. The company operates from converted barns and farms, and children can visit the animals while parents browse. Familiar names include Britax, Maclaren and Fisher Price. Some prams are reduced from £359.99 to £269.99.

Purple Fish (01453 882820) in Stroud, Gloucestershire, on page 334, is a warehouse shop selling Spanish-made shoes, mainly leather, up to an adult size 8. In the

shop, leather ankle-boot trainers for children are £12 and trendy clogs £10. A mail order catalogue is

Lovers of old-fashioned turntable record players will enjoy discover-ing Audio Gold in north London (0181-341 9007) on page 448 — one of the few places in the capital that still stocks a good range. Repairs on old models cost from £25, and the shop keeps a stock of 40 styluses for 1970s record players, costing £5. More unusual needles can be provided within a week.

The Water Monopoly in northwest London (0171-624 2636), on page 467, sells fully or part restored freestanding cast-iron baths at prices from £800 to £12,000. Basins range from £250 to £2,500, and lavatories £100 to £1,000. A reproduction accessory line, including soap dishes and flannel hooks, cost £25 upwards and are available by mail order. The shop can arrange delivery countrywide and overseas. So, whatever it was you wished you had bought before the shop sold out, you might find it here.

JENNAI COX

### Shopping guides at a glance

☐ To obtain a copy of The Good Deal Directory 1996 send a cheque or postal order for £9.99 made payable to The Value for Money Company Limited to: The Good Deal Directory, PO Box 4, Lechlade, Glos G17 3YB (or telephone 01367 860016, giving Visa or Access card details).

☐ Other guides compiled by Noelle Walsh: Baby on a Budget (Mac-millan, £3,99, available from above address). Wonderful Weddings that Don't Cost a Fortune (Macmillan, £4.99, available from bookshops). The Good Mail Order Guide (to be published this month by Macmillan, £9.99, available from bookshops). The guide lists more than 1,200 mail

order catalogue companies, according to product. Items available include button covers, dog cushions, flowers or tapestry tools. There is also an index at the back where companies can be looked up by name. The Factory Shopping and Sightseeing Guide to the UK (to be published next month by the Good Deal Directory Company Ltd.
£3.99, available from the address above left) is the place to find value for-money brand-named items such as Royal Doulton, Barbour and Wedgwood, while sampling a taste of history and culture. It lists 1,600 factory shops, divided into nine regions, each with its own map, a description of local tourist sites and details of nearby factory shops.

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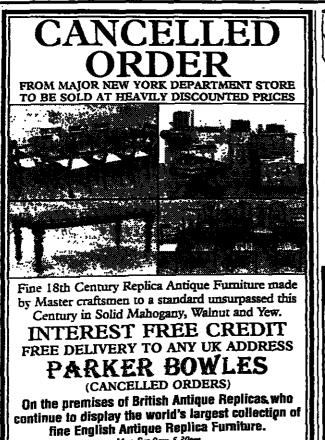


The Har dragon set, £5,000 from Steinberg & Tolkein

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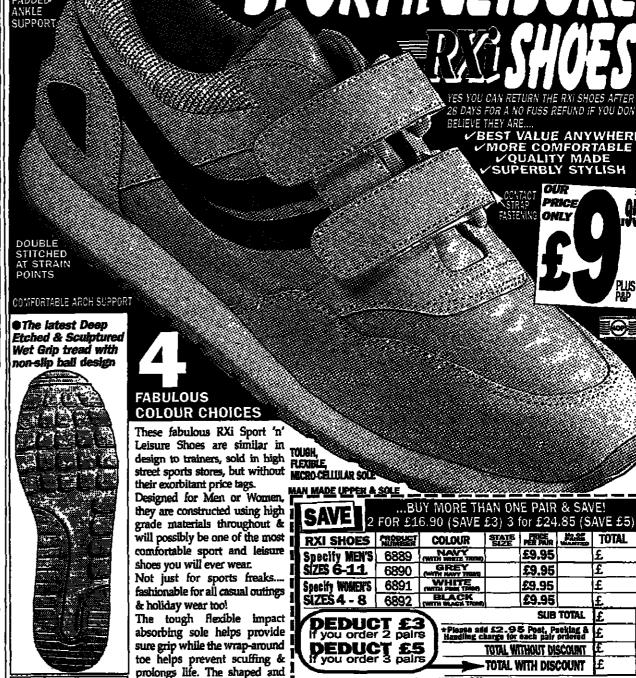
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## COLLECTING

Fake sparklers old and new, cut and set to look like expensive, sophisticated gems, are treasured by bargain-hunting connoisseurs

## Indulging a passion for paste that outshines diamonds

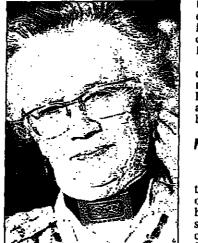
or more than 200 years, diamanté has been captivating connoisseurs, from 18thcentury fashion followers to 20th-century collectors. One such collector is Verity Urquhart, who started buying period paste 15 years ago. She already owned a small collection of antique jewellery, concentrating on early Roman rings, but when her husband, an orthopaedic surgeon, retired she knew she would have less money to spend.

Rather than give up her hobby, she switched to collecting paste, souring the auction rooms, going to pre-sale viewings where she can handle the jewellery, visiting street markets and gleaning information from specialist dealers. She learnt about quality, rarity, terminology. dates and prices. She reads auction catalogues avidly, trying to spot the sleepers, goes to just about every antiques fair she can find and never misses her regular round of London's dealers, who look out for pieces for her.

For Mrs Urquhart, one of the attractions of collecting paste is the variety of periods and styles; each has its own charm. "I'm not very fond of diamonds," she says. "I

Mrs Urquhart looks out for 18thcentury treasures, the connoisseur's items, with their fine proportions, workmanship and immaculately shaped, fitted and foiled lead-crystal stones, but she is equally thrilled by a quirky Victorian sentimental token or an elegant Edwardian shoe buckle or choker - or even a Hollywood-style brooch from the

"I like to think I can appreciate the



Verity Urquhart with an Edwardian choker. £60

period," she says. Her well-chosen and eclectic collection, which she wears with enjoyment, covers the whole spectrum. They include a set of Elizabethan aglets or dress ornaments (£50 each), an Art Nouveau enamel and marcasite bird brooch, a geometric Art Deco necklace and an American 1950s flower brooch with misty blue-grey crystal petals. made by Trifari, the world leader in the market at the time. She bought the brooch three years ago from Madeleine Popper, a dealer in Grays Antique Market, central London, for £120.

"I always go for bargains, and there's usually something interesting and beautiful to be found for E50-E100, while a prize treasure. "I like to think I can appreciate the qualities of jewellery from any only cost about £300-£400." Mrs Urquhart is clearly dedicated to the excitement of the hunt. A particular favourite is a delicate Edwardian choker in fine openwork found at Bonhams, the auctioneers, for £60. Among the buckles in Mrs Urquhart's collection, which she

threads on to a scarf, is a handsome late-Victorian pair set with emerald and white pastes which she recently bought for £40.

hen, of course, there are the "must-haves". "My rule is that if I think about something for a week or more, then I have to have it," she says. One of these is a tiny Victorian lovebird brooch, its miniature wings outstretched as it swoops to deliver an olive branch or possibly a sprig of forget-me-not, the symbol of true love. It is made of gold set with blue stones in Vauxhall glass — a kind of English mirrored paste named after the Vauxhall glassworks — for which she paid £100. This was discovered at Lowther Antiques in

the Portobello Road, west London. A spectacular Edwardian crab brooch of silver gilt, set with paste grass-green demantoid garnets, the favourite stone of the period, was bought from Sandra Cronanin the Burlington Arcade, central London. It illustrates the Edwardian love of

Since early lead-crystal gems were not subject to the limitations in cost and quality of the real thing, they could be more adventurous, luxurious and flamboyant. It was always a case of challenging nature with "anything you can do, we can do better", an attitude that perfectly suited, for example, the 18th century, when the new paste jewels, pioneer-

Above left: Edwardian crab brooch. Above: American 1950s flower brooch with blue-grey crystal petals, £120

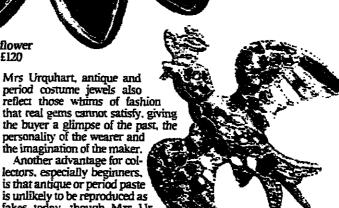
ed by a young jeweller named Stras. took Parisian society by storm.

The colours of faux gerns are an important part of the attraction for Mrs Urquhart: she likes the soft colours and sheen of old paste. A pair of Regency bracelers, which can join to make a necklace, are set with an unusual combination of imitation banded agates alternated with faceted, paste, lemon-yellow chrysoberyls. It is interesting, too, that such care should be taken to imitate relatively inexpensive stones.

Mrs Urquhart recommends paste as an excellent way into antique jewellery. It's decorative, fun and wearable, although often neglected, underpriced and misunderstood. And it is far from being just a poor relation of the real thing; while the craftsmanship and ingenuity of design delights collectors such as Mrs Urquhart, antique and period costume jewels also reflect those whims of fashion that real gems cannot satisfy, giving the buyer a glimpse of the past, the personality of the wearer and the imagination of the maker. Another advantage for collectors, especially beginners, is that antique or period paste

fakes today, though Mrs Urquhart once bought some paste ear-rings which turned out to be diamonds. Mrs Urquhart's advice to new collectors is: "Get your eye in first, gather a bit of knowledge. Find somebody to introduce you to the

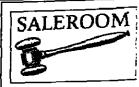
world and, most importantly, befriend a dealer." Her latest find is a Georgian buckle and a 1950s bracelet. As she



Victorian lovebird with blue stones, £100

left one antique shop recently, she tried to persuade the owner to sell the ring he was wearing. "He wouldn't, of course, but he has agreed to leave it to me in his will."

VIVIENNE BECKER



□ Anglers can stock up on antique tackle today at Nock Deighton, aucrioneers in Bridgnorth, Shropshire, Examples include a fine and rare Hardy 1996 all-brass reel rod at £250 to £350. A leather-on-oak tackle case, with green baize-lined lid, by the Yorkshire maker William Dobson is £300 to £500. Dobson is £300 to £500.

☐ About 500 mantelpiece adornments come up at the Louis Taylor Doublen and Beswick-ware auction on Monday. The sale, at Stoke-on-Trent, includes Bearrix Poner's Pigling Bland at 540 to £60, and Samuel Whiskers

If The only known portrait of the Duke of Wellington in precise profile to the left comes up at Christe's on Monday. Fashioned in Sevres porcelain in 1815, the tiny oval plaque is estimated at £6,000 to £8,000.

☐ The vintage film-poster auction at Christie's South Kensington on Tuesday in-cludes a spectacular section devoted to horror. One highlight is a rare poster for the 1936 film The Invisible Ray, featuring Boris Karloff, Estimate: £10.000 to £15.000.

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☐ The best find from the BBCI Antiques Road Show this season is for sale at Bonhams' watercolour auction on Wednesday. A miniature image, Adam and Eve at the Fall. by the 10th-century artist George Rich-mond, it is valued at £50,000 to £80,000. The sale also offers some big names at reasonable prices, including a Gainsborough landscape (£5,000 to £8,000) and a John Sell Coman (E300 to £400).

Sarah Jane CHECKLAND

 Nock Deighton, the Saleroom Centre, Bridgnorth, Shropshire (01746 762666). Louis Taylor, Britannia House, 10 Town Road, Hanley, Stoke on-Trent, Staffordshire (01782 214111). Christie's, 8 King Street, London SWI (0171-839 9060). Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (0171-581 7611). Bonhams. Montpellier Street, W7 (0171-393 3900).

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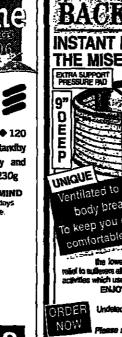
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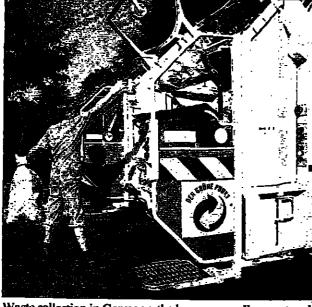




## **OUTDOORS**

Only one in three of us recycles our rubbish. What a waste, says Tony Kelly

## Why are Britons so bad at recycling?



Waste collection in Germany: the laws on recycling are tough

e honest. What will you do with this newspaper when you have finished reading it? Shove it in the dustbin or put it to one side in a special newspaper box? And what will happen to that empty bottle of cabernet after your Sunday

If you're planning to visit a paper or a bottle bank, you are in a minority. Only about one in three people regularly recycles rubbish and overall the recycling of domestic waste in Britain hovers miserably around the 5 per cent mark. against a government target of 25 per cent (and a figure of 30) per cent in Germany).

It's not as if it's difficult: many supermarkets provide facilities. So why are we so bad

Perhaps it is the suspicion that we will be wasting our time. Even those who sort paper from plastic, Coke cans from champagne corks (yes. even these can be recycled) must sometimes wonder whether it is worthwhile. Stories of paper mountains dumped into landfills, even during a crisis in the world paper market, only feed suspicions.

Recycling makes us feel good, but does it do any good? What happens to our rubbish after we have lugged it to the

A £6 million, solar-powered. state-of-the-art recycling centre at Milton Keynes. Buckinghamshire, provides some answers. Huge mounds of paper and cardboard are sorted and crushed before being packed into bales and taken off to paper mills. Steel and aluminium cans are sorted mechanically and by hand, crushed

This isn't Germany or Japan, where people are ostracised for creating waste'

and sent to the mills for reuse Plastic bottles are granulated or turned into flakes, washed and sent off for remoulding. We don't take anything we

haven't got a market for," says Jill King, the recycling officer for Milton Keynes council. recycling: you can't just collect stuff and then think afterwards about what to do with it." This is what happened in Germany in the early 1990s, when recycling rose faster than demand and foreign markets were flooded with chean recycled material.

We are in the business of providing quality raw materials for industry." Mrs King says. It just happens to be environmentally friendly as well.

Milton Keynes was the first local authority to introduce a door-to-door recycling collec-tion scheme, in 1992. Each household is offered two boxes - a red one for paper, textiles and cardboard, and a blue one for plastic, glass, foil and tins. Both boxes are collected week-ly. Two-thirds of the city's households take part and the proportion of waste recycled has risen to 25 per cent.

But don't some people make



mistakes and put things in the wrong box? "About 22 per cent of what comes in is rejected, mostly labels and bottle tops," Mrs King says.
"That's much lower than the rate for paper and bottle banks, where people dump anything from dead birds to

et such a scheme as this must have limits. "I think we've almost reached saturation point," says Mrs King. "Sixty per cent of the paper going into houses in Milton Keynes is coming back. There will always be a minority who are reluctant to recycle, and if you try to force them it won't work. This isn't Germany or Japan. where people are ostracised for creating waste."

Japan, however, is looking for new ideas on recycling and sent two planners to meet Mrs King, who showed me a pile of presents they left - wrapped in layers of environmentally unfriendly packaging.

It's not only foreigners who come to learn at Milton Keynes; there are tours for the public and a school visit each day. Children look at products created from local waste - cat litters out of newspapers. fleece lining out of drinks

bottles - and return home to educate their parents. The city's scheme is starting

to be copied elsewhere in Britain. In Bath it is run as a partnership between the city council and Avon Friends of the Earth. An FoE survey in 1992 found that most people approve of recycling household waste and are willing to do it, but don't. The evidence from Bath and Milton Keynes suggests that if you make it

user-friendly enough, they do. So what else can be done to encourage recycling? The Chancellor has announced a landfill tax, to be introduced in October, which should provide an incentive for local authorities to increase their recycling rates. Then there is pressure on industry not to produce the waste in the first place - as in Germany and Denmark, where businesses

must pay for the disposal or recycling of all packaging. One controversial suggestion is that consumers should be hit where it hurts - in the pocket. In Germany and some states of America, rubbish is sorted into different coloured boxes, with a black box for

non-recyclables which attracts a collection charge. This would be illegal in Britain. where councils are required to provide a free refuse collection service. "It wouldn't work anyway," Ms King says. "People would dump rubbish on their neighbours, throw it into hedges or just cheat by putting rubbish in their recy-

cling box." Perhaps. But when each household contributes a tonne of rubbish to landfill sites every year it is clear that something has to be done.

Sweden recycles 86 per cent of its aluminium cans: in Britain it is barely 20 per cent. With glass, Britain (30 per cent) comes bottom in Europe, behind Greece and Turkey though this ignores the benefits of the doorstep milk service, now in decline Perhaps the model to follow

is that of the Third World. where recycling is an economic fact of life. At Milton Keynes there is a display of the typical contents of a British dustbin. with a much smaller one from Ghana. There is also a collection of everyday Ghanaian goods: nutmeg graters bashed out of old milk cans, sandals made from tyres, drinking bowls fashioned from gourds.

Recycling at its most basic. This sort of approach has been adopted by Wye Cycle, a waste-reduction scheme organised by the village of

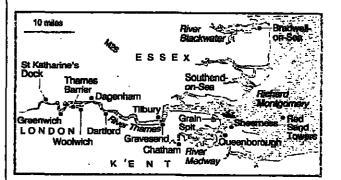
Wye, near Ashford, Kent. "We try to prevent waste being produced in the first place, rather than running round collecting it," says Richard Boden, the co-ordinator. "We think it is better to refill plastic bottles than to send them to Cheshire to be turned into garden furniture."

Vegetables are delivered, unpackaged, from local farms; retailers buy detergent in bulk and swap empty bottles for full ones. Compost is created from local waste and returned to people in the village. Some households have cut their waste by as much as 90 per cent, many by about half.

Perhaps this is the way forward. "Reduce, re-use, recycle", goes the green slogan, with recycling the option of last resort. Sometimes it is the only option. But as you hear your bottles being smashed at the bottom of the bottle bank, don't you ever wonder why they can't simply be washed up and used again?

● The Milton Keynes Recycling Facility has public tours every Wednesday at 2.30pm; £2. children El. There is an Open Day on Saturday, March 23 at 2pm (details, 01908 225000). Information on local recycling and waste reduction schemes.

## Battered on a windswept **Thames**



The 5.55am shipping fore-cast spoke of "gales in sible Force 9 in Thames. But after a wild night on a mooring at Queenborough, Kent, all we aimed to do was sail up the Thames into the heart of London, berthing in St Katharine's Dock by Tower Bridge. Although we would be sail-

ing the 35 or so miles into the th of the southwesterly gale, most of it would be under engine and we would have the tide to propel us along the evernarrowing twists and turns of the lower reaches of the river.

We had set off the day before in Nutcracker, my 35ft Dutchbuilt cutter, from Bradwell-on-Sea in Essex. Twenty-four hours later, as the wind rocked backwards forwards,

my crew, Mike

McCarthy, and I slipped the mooring, unfurled the jib and sailed off on a reach out of Queenborough into the mouth of the Medway, passing the docks at Sheerness and the giant Grain power station

To start with, we headed east to avoid the Grain Spit. The seaward end is marked by the wreck of the *Richard* Montgomery, an ammunition ship which ran aground with 7.000 tons of explosive on board in 1944. The ship still has at least half its cargo inside it and is marked by a series of yellow buoys. Parts of the superstructure are visible above the water. The most impressive are the offshore gun platforms built to hit German bombers using the river to navigate to London's

Bridge should take between five and six hours with the tide under you. We sailed for the first few hours, punching the tide as far as Gravesend Reach. Here we gave up shorttacking in between large ships making their way to and from Tilbury and started the engine. Even on that relatively wide part of the river sailing was frustrating, with much going about and Nutcracker falling away badly on one side

with the adverse current. There was also the difficulty of judging passing ships going at speed, which sometimes forced us to lurk in the shallows to avoid any possibility of getting in their way in mid-channel. High up on the bridge, several skippers waved in an appreciative thanks as they rumbled by.

Gravesend, like other riverside towns, looked grey and uninviting in the squally winter weather. Here the hail that blew into our faces was so sharp that we had to shield our eyes to see over the bow.

ricks of Tilbury, the river takes you under the Queen Elizabeth II road bridge, which carries the M25 over the Thames, 80 metres above the water. Under us the traffic of the Dartford Tunnel passed unheard as we bounced along vith the increasing current.

approach to the Thames Barrier, whose pillars look like a medieval battlement bestriding the river, with the towers of the City of London silhouetted behind them. Large notices instruct you to notify Wool-wich Radio on VHF Ch 14 of your approach

and you are then told which span of the structure to sail through. Once we reached the fashionable Docklands de-

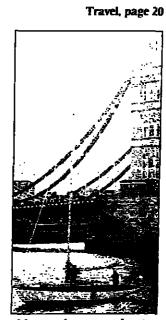
> had to avoid but pleasure craft and sight-seeing boats. Happily, however, we had picked up so much speed with the tide that we ended up outside St Katharine's yacht basin an hour early, and the storms of the previous night

velopments it was not only

tugs pulling barge-loads of

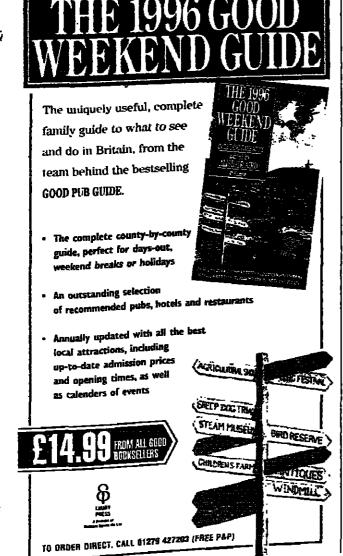
seemed long ago.
"It was eventful," reflected a
weary, cold Mike. "But next time we go in the summer."

**EDWARD GORMAN** 



Nutcracker preparing to dock at St Katharine's

NEXT WEEK: preparing your boat after winter



### Hawk loses a thorny battle

Feather report

I WAS wandering through some fields the other day when I suddenly heard a loud, shrilling cry of fear coming from a distant clump of hawthorn bushes. I swept the field-glasses round and found a struggle going on in one of them. A dark brown, female sparrowhawk was spreadeagled half upside-down, deep in the bush, and suspended below her was a redwing. completely upside down, one wing dangling. I could see the broad blaze of crimson across the redwing's armpit, and its gleaming white underbelly.

The birds were completely entangled in the thorns. The hawk evidently had a light hold on the redwing with one of its talons, and the victim could not break free. At the same time, the hawk could not right itself and move without letting go.

There were a few convulsive movements in the bush, and some white feathers drifted out. Then there was stillness and silence. It was a complete deadlock. The situation was resolved a moment

later by a man approaching with a dog. The hawk abandoned its prey, twisted round and flew off rapidly. I went closer, wondering what state the

redwing would be in, and was astonished

to see it fly out of the bush apparently

Marauding sparrowhawk unharmed. It must have dived into the bush when the hawk flew at it - and its stratagem had succeeded. I would have felt sorry for the redwing

it had lost the battle but now I felt sorry

for the hawk that had lost its meal. Small birds have techniques for protecting themselves. Generally, birds of one species do not react to the calls of another. But this is not the case with alarm calls. A blackbird sees a sparrowhawk circling overhead and, as it sweeps into cover, gives a loud, clattering cry. A wren hears it and starts "tick-ticking", and a robin does the same. Then some long-tailed tits start chattering, and they all move to a less exposed place.

WHAT was particularly surprising during the battle I saw in the bush is that all the while a blue tit was hopping about feeding, only a foot or two from the sparrowhawk. I think that it simply did not recognise the hawk. It had the built-in ability to recognise the form of a hawk overhead or approaching, but nothing in its genes helped it with an upside-down sparrowhawk. So it just went calmly and happily on its way.

DERWENT MAY

• What's about: Birders - listen for early chiffchaffs in wood and gardens. Twitchers cedar waxwing at Nottingham: laughing gull at Sunderland. Tyne and Wear; waxwings at a number of locations around the country. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.



MOTHER'S DAY MARCH 17TH 1996

The gift that grows

## A pride of pulpits

Pisa cathedral and tower

assumes you have been to. Since the first British colonists arrived in the 1950s, with their do-it-yourself guides to Italian land purchase, the region has become in our imagin-ation not a lush and storied corner of Europe's most favoured nation, but Chiantishire, a kind of southern annex of the Cotswolds. with cheap wine and excellent home help.

My first trip to Tuscany, last autumn, was an attempt to bridge a cultural gap. The idea was that my partner and I would fly to Pisa, meet up with a group of fellow seekers after truth and spend up to six hours a day exploring a range of art and architectural treasures. Our guide was Dr Edward Chaney, of Oxford Brookes University. Dr Chaney, after

the death of his patron. Harold Acton, is the greatest living authority on the "grand tour", and I had somehow expected an elderly, stooped martinet, tuttutting over our amateur confusions. He turned out to be a dapper figure, in his early forties, who wished everyone to have a good time and was ready to bend all sorts of rules to accommodate our wishes.
"Home" each night was a

hillside villa belonging to an affable Hampstead couple, Berenice and John Bonallack. Our bedroom overlooked the patio, and the view extended into the hills for miles in all directions. Even in October there were crickets chirruping

and an abundance of flowers. The air was clear and cool, so that at night the stars burst through with a most un-English radiance and, occasionally, wood smoke, perfumed with resin, drifted up from the valley.

First, though, straight from the airport, we had learnt to suffer for our art. It was in Pisa. in the airy immensity of the Baptistry, at the opposite end of the Piazza dei Miracoli to the leaning tower, that we encountered our first pulpit. Dr Chaney, it emerged, was not just a voluble Eurosceptic but a bit of a pulpit fetishist, believing that the glories of Cima-bue, Caravaggio and Raphael had to be measured against the complexities of a decent 12th or 13th-century preaching plat-form, particularly if made by Nicola or Giovanni Pisano. Clearly we were going to have to keep our wits about us.

Relief came when a church employee, who seemed to combine the offices of verger, cantor and curator, treated us to a spontaneous demonstration of the Baptistry's accoustics. The harmonics he released via a pure tenor voice resonated round the walls and proved an eerie experience, albeit one of which Pope Gregory I would have approved. That night, as every night, we dined

Prue Leith school of cookery. As the courses kept coming and the wine flowed, presided over by the beneficent Bonallacks, our little group of disparate souls began to coalesce around inevitable stories of marital disharmony, career crises and financial frustra-tions: the middle classes at supper. What time would we set off in the morning.

our leader inquired as midnight came and went. Nine o'clock? "Ten, ten," came the bibulous reply. And so to bed.

Our tour took us. twice, to Lucca, an almost perfect medieval town, its ramparts as formidable as during the centuries when it resisted Tuscan expansion and the power of the Medicis. The churches and galleries of

> contain many treasures, including a splendid late 15th-century pulpit in the duomo by Civitali. Even so, my partner and I begged time off to negotiate, by means of sign language, the purchase of hunks of Parma ham, parmesan cheese, a horse shoe of salami and a bottle of Lucchese olive oil. This was culture of another kind.

Midweek found us lined up outside the Villa Medici in Fiesole. The villa is amazing. It was the first modern mansion, commissioned by Cosimo de Medici in the early 1450s for his son, Giovanni, but was so successful in execution that it could easily be taken for the Long Island retreat

of the Great Gatsby. Our problem was that it was closed, yet such was Dr Chaney's indignation, combining academic hauteur with fluent stupefaction, that we were hurriedly admitted to the grounds.

Prato, on the way to Florence, has a museum housing one of Italy's most important collections of contemporary art. It also boasts a series of splendid fresoes by Fra Filippo Lippi. But the highlight for our party was the Pulpit of the Sacred Girdle, by Donatello and Michelozzo, in the duomo.

Next stop, Pistoia. The Pistolesi have a violent history and gave their name to an early firearm, but the town's outstanding work of art is - yes - the pulpit in the church of Sant Andrea by Giovanni Pisano, the serenity of which is thought by some to rival that of Michelangelo. By now, we scarcely needed to be told.

● The author was a guest of Simply Tuscany & Umbria, 598-608 Chiswick High Road, London W4 5RT (0181-995 8277). Tuscany Art & Architecture tours cost E896 per person for a seven-night stay, excluding flights, which can be arranged from £180. The price includes guided excursions, tuitio transfers, entrance fees and half-board accommodation with dinner. Tours depart on April 12 and October 5

## Fat City plump in neglected treasures

lised and underrated city in Italy, neglected by the hordes who descend on Flor-ence and Venice. This is a city to wander through, enjoying the wealth of medieval and Renaissance palazzi from under the cover of endless picturesque arcades, and stopping whenever you feel like enjoying the marvellous food. I have selected two from any number of leading restaurants which have earned the city the title la Grassa, the Fat. (See

Getting there, below right)

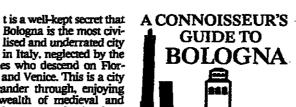
The blame for the demise in Bologna's popularity can be laid at the door of Ruskin, laid at the door of Ruskin, whose scathing condemnation of the Bolognese school brought a volte-face in Victorian public opinion, one that has lasted until the present day. Although the names of the leading Bolognese painters — Annibale Carracci, Guido Reni and Domenichino — once ranked alongside those of once ranked alongside those of Raphael and Michelangelo, and far above Giotto and Masaccio, and their works embellished the walls of all the

greatest English country houses, you can spend a pleas ant hour in the Pinacoteca in Bologna admiring their Baroque masterpieces without encountering another tourist. If your love of painting is restricted to the Renaissance, the church of San Giacomo Maggiore, the parish church of the all-powerful Bentivoglio family, contains some wonder-

more delightful frescoes by

Costa, Francia and Aspertini

Charles V in 1530. ful frescoes by the little-known Lorenzo Costa and Francesco Francia in the apse of the Bentivoglio Chapel. There are



in the Oratory of St Cecilia behind the church; they rank with anything being painted by their contemporaries in Florence at the beginning of the l6th century.

The most splendid architec

tural ensemble in the city is the central Piazza Maggiore. The struggle for power between the church, the comune (civic council) and the guilds represented in Bologna by the lawyers and the bankers, a struggle which afflicted every medieval town - is vividly illustrated in the competing magnificence of the palaces facing the square.

The vast unfinished façade of San Petronio, one of the most gigantic Gothic buildings ever erected in Italy, testifies to the enormous wealth of the city during the Middle Ages. This was the church chosen for the coronation of the Habsburg Emperor

he Piazza Nettuno, leading off the north side of the square, is centred on the commanding bronze statue of Neptune by Giambologna. All but the most curious Bolo-gnese maidens pretended to avert their gaze when passing beneath the trident of the unashamedly naked figure of the god of the sea.

A number of museums are clustered around the Piazza Maggiore. The Archaeological Museum has an important collection of Egyptian and Etruscan objects, and the Morandi Museum, in the Palazzo Comunale, features the charming and peaceful works of the 20th-century

The most remarkable building is the extraordinary Anatomical Theatre, known as the Archiginnasio, which stands at the heart of the former site of the university, the oldest in Europe. Inside the building, which has been superbly restored after a bomb landed on it during the Second World War, the statues of famous professors of medicine. and dissected corpses supporting the professor of anatomy's chair, gaze down impassively on to an operating table.

Bologna is full of wonderful Renaissance sculpture. Pride of place goes to Jacopo della



Quercia's dynamic reliefs over

the central doorway of San

gelo, as well as Niccolo dell'

Arca's haunting terracotta

group of the Entombment in

Maria in Vita and the master-

church of San Domenico, where the founder of the Dom-

inican order died in 1221. The

wealth of statues and reliefs

adorning the tomb, by Niccolo

Pisano, Niccolo dell'Arca (who

took his name from this tomb).

give an unrivalled idea of the

splendour and range of Italian

sculpture from the 13th to the

Before leaving Bologna, do

16th century.

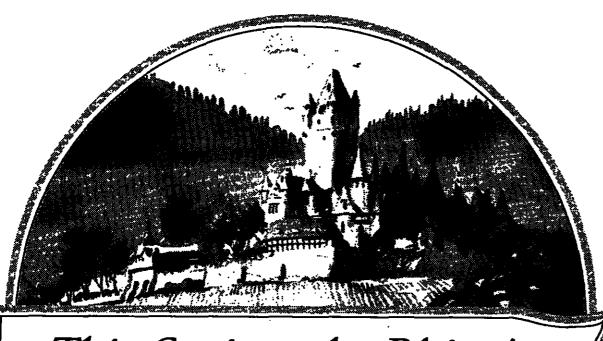
and the young Michelangelo,

not miss the complex of churches clustered around Santo Stefano, dating back to the 5th century. An ancient pilgrimage centre, built in imitation of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, this is one of the most atmospheric places

### Getting there

Fine Art Travel (0171-437 8553, fax specialist tours. Italy Sky Shutti 0181-748 1333) offers return flights to Bologna from £151. ☐ Hotels (prices are for a double room per night and vary according to season): Grand Hotel Baglioni, Via Indipendenza 3 (00 39 51 225 445), E133. Hotel Orologio, Via IV Novem 10 (250 552) £95. Hotel Cavour, Via Goito 4 (228 111) £75.

☐ Restaurants: Grasilli, Via del Luzzo 3, the best place to cat the cotaletta bolognese (veal). Anna Maria, Via delli Belli Arti, for those who love Bolognese pasta. Da Nello, Via Montegrappa 2, specialises in deep-fried vegetables.



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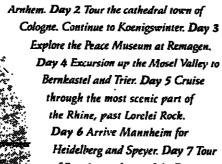
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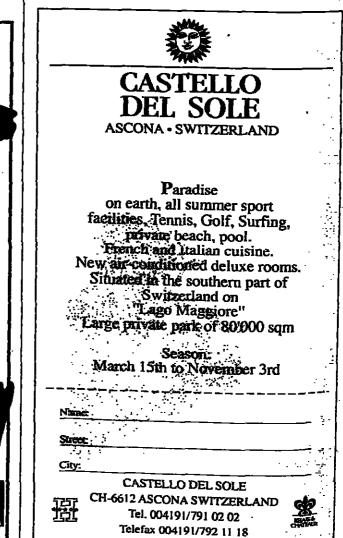
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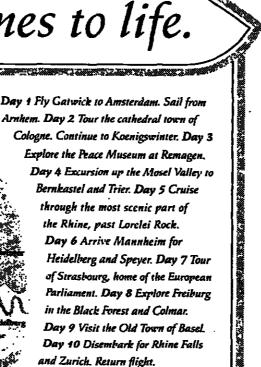
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## TRAVEL

### ... Jeremy Paxman takes a stroll in the hills around Sienna



The picturesque town of San Gimignano, perched on hilltops overlooking vineyards and fields, is a welcome sight after a long, hot walk

## Walking for wimps

ace the church and, before the cypress trees, take a little path down to the left ... At bamboo tractor shed continue along path past goat Turn left in enclosure village by shrine inscribed
Ave Maria: This is emphatically not the Tuscany of the thundering coachloads of obese tourists sandwiching medieval churches between pasta and ice-cream.

The fortified towns of Tuscany. perched on hilltops overlooking vineyards and fields. were designed to resist attack. But the invasion of Nikkonwhat siege ma-

chines never managed. From May to September, the invaders swagger through the centres of the towns, lords of all they survey. Mass tourism is

scent of the scourge of modern Europe. Of broom and course, those who moan most loudly dog rose' about the milling. singlet-clad crowds

infesting the streets are themselves part of the problem. The argument is really about snobbery: the complainers want the glories of Europe for themselves and don't see why the piazzas should be polluted by the masses. As for the coach parties, you can hardly blame them if, after a while, one place blends into another.

There is no obvious answer. particularly since such great swaths of Europe now depend on the coach parties for their living. But walking Tuscany is a way, if you'll forgive the expression, of at least sidestepping the problem.

During the four days in which we walked from Cerraldo to Siena we saw scarcely another visitor. As distances go, it was pretty paltry - 40odd miles on tracks and paths. But it had the great merit that it introduced us to Tuscany at the

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speed at which it is best appreciated. This, you feel, is how you ought to come to town, with a small sack on your back, a ripe peach in hand and ever so slightly footsore.

When you approach a town such as Monteriggioni, its medieval walls and 14 towers perched high on a hilltop, you see it first through heat haze and perspiration. It is precisely the view Dante had, which he recalled in the Inferno.

Of the towns on this short walk. Monteriggioni is the most charming, with its a hundred inhabitants, single food store, excellent restaurant

The air Colle Val d'Elsa, another fort perched on a hilltop, was sweet with a bustling town below, was with the almost as quiet. And even San Gimignano, one of the compulsory stops on every charabanc seems tour, charmed after a

day's walk. The only other foreigners we had met that day were a couple of lost German archaeologists searching for an Etruscan necropolis. It came as a shock to walk through the gates of the town and discover that we weren't the only visitors. We felt we deserved the tingling lemon ice-creams the others took for granted.

The Tuscans are not entirely au fait with the idea of walking for pleasure. The farmer tending his vines looked up with an expression of indulgent bafflement. The occasional tractors and vans passing along the strada bianca connecting distant fortified farms would offer a lift on the assumption that no one walks unless their car has broken down or the sun has addled their brain. When we declined, they smilingly indulged us.

It was worth it. Most of the walk was along farm tracks

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and scarcely used paths where the flowers and bushes formed an arch over our heads and the air was sweet with the scent of broom and dog rose. Sometimes we passed through vinevards, where the vines were still grown in the Etruscan style on pollarded sycamores. Other times we walked beside barns whose stink proclaimed a hundred pigs on their way to

becoming parma hams. Once, as we dropped down a dell, three young roe deer continued gazing just yards in front of us until, with a start, they scam-pered off through the trees.

The illusions during this sort of holiday are multiple: that you are not part of the tourist crowd (you are, of course, but luckily you don't see the rest of them); that you are pathfinding (you're actually following a well-researched trail); that you're discovering the delightful hotels or B&Bs for yourselves (in fact, they've all been booked in advance).

The walking itself would be aughed at by any serious hiker. It is extremely unchallenging, not a patch on, say, the Scottish Highlands. But the Highlands have miserable wine and you couldn't find a village grocer to knock you up a parma ham and parmesan sandwich for love or money.

We never covered more than nine or so miles a day, which in the June sun was enough. The route instructions were

accompanied - for the benefit of the neurotic or easily confused — by precise measures of the number of metres between directions. They have been refined over the years

and we got lost only once. Our bags, which had been left in the lobby of the last hotel that morning, would reappear in the hotel room of our destination that night. It was walking for softies, certainly, but it's a nice way to see Tuscany.

### Fact file

☐ The author travelled to Alternative Travel, 69-71 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6PE (0)865 310244), which offers a seven-night walking holiday from £695, including scheduled return flights from Gatwick by Alitalia, dinner, bed and breakfast, picnic lunches and transfer of luggage

a week-long painting course in Provence which tours the landscapes that Cézanne made famous. The course is for singles and costs £685 per person, including three days' tuition from a local artist, seven nights B&B in a family-run hotel in St Rémy-de-Provence, three dinners and coach transfers.

☐ Solo's (0181-951 2811) has

□ VFB Holidays (01242 240310) offers selfcatering cottages in Cezanne country for up to five people from £150 per week in early July. The cottages, in Trets, are close to the hills of Mont Ste. Victoire and the vineyards of the Var. Self-drive prices include ac-

commodation and ferry crossings. ☐ P&O (0990 980 980) has new daytrips to Le Havre or Cherbourg from Portsmouth for £29 per person.

Passengers must take a car and at least one other person. The price includes an on-board three-course meal and ten hours in France. The offer runs until June 30.

☐ Headwater Holidays (01606 48699) has a cross-country skiing beginners week in central France for £297 per person, starting on March 23. The skiing area is at Les Estables, near Ste. Etienne, and is ideal for those new to the sport. The price includes seven nights' full board in the three-star Hotel Decouverte, self-drive with a Hover-

#### TRAVEL TIPS

speed Channel crossing from Dover to Calais, and five days' Nordic skiing ruition. The package also includes ski pass and hire of boots, poles and skis.

☐ Admirers of the Impressionists have until June 30 to enjoy two-night weekend breaks by Citalia (0181-686 5533) for £339 in Milan, where Russia's Pushkin Museum is showing 85 masterpieces at the Palazzo Reale. The price includes flights, transfers and B&B at

the three-star City Hotel on the main shopping street. Corso Buenos Aires. Entrance to the exhibition is £6.50.

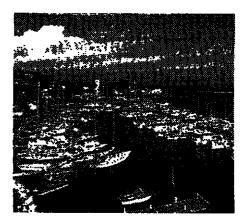
☐ A two-night B&B weekend break in the two-star Hotel Romae in Rome is £288 with Cresta Holidays (0990 501814). The price is based on two people sharing. Half-day "artistic Rome" tours, which visit the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel, can be pre-booked with Cresta for £22.50. Flights from Gatwick.

☐ Walk gently along Italy's beautiful Ligurian coast for a week from May 18 for £510 with Waymark Holidays (01753 516477). Each day includes a guided walk from the Hotel Noris in the village of Alassio. Return flights are from Stansted to Nice and luggage transfers are included.

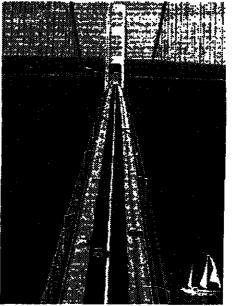
ALEX WIJERATNA

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From the unquestionable comfort of our Renaissance vessel we will undertake our Aegean and Adriatic odyssey on a passage through history. The history of the Mycenaeans, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Venetians will be woven into the itinerary as we make our way from Athens by way of Turkey's Aegean Coast and the marvellous site of Ephesus and on to Halicarnassus. Leaving Turkish waters we will next

head for the island of Crete, home of the great and mysterious Minoan civilisation, and then sail to the Cyclades and the stark volcanic island of Santorini. Then. by courtesy of the Emperor Nero, we will navigate the Corinth Canal He created this passageway through the Peloponnese Peninsula in 67 AD to shorten the journey from the Aegean to Adriatic.

From Itea we shall visit the Temple of Apollo, site of the farnous Delphic Oracle and then continue to the island of Corfu, one of the most beautiful and varied of all Greek islands. Crossing the Adriatic we shall moor in a rarely visited area of South Eastern Italy at the port of Monopoli. Here the unique trulli architecture (archaic cone-roofed stone house) and the

medieval villages make for a fascinating morning of exploration. Our penultimate call will be Ravenna, the western capital of Byzantium and the seat of Venice's suzerain lord, the Exarch. Finally, in the early hours of the morning we shall approach Venice. Be on deck before breakfast to witness our arrival at this most splendid of

This date operates in reverse order from Venice to Athens.

#### THE ITINERARY DAY 1 London-Athens DAY 2 Athens DAY 3 Athens DAY 4 Kusa dasi DAY 5 Bodrum DAY 6 traktion DAY 7 Santorini DAY 8 Corinth Canal-Itea DAY 9 Corfu

DAY 10 Monopoli

DAY 11 Ravenna

DAY 13 Venice-London

DAY 12 Venice

PRICES PER PERSON SHARING A SUITE

Inclusive prices range from £2695 for a Standard suite to £3995 for a Premium suite. Single Standard

suites are £3795. Proces subject to suscharge. Ports subject to charge Price includes: Economy class air travel London-Athens and Vertice-London, 2 nights at the Athens Hilton Hotel on breakfast only basis. 10 nights aboard Renaissance IV on full board, shore excursions and Athens excursions, entrance fees, local guides, porterage at docks, transfers, port taxes, UK departure tax, Guest Speakers, Not included: Travel insurance, airport taxes, tips to ship's crew.



The Renaissance IV is one of eight small luxury cruise vessels built in an Italian yard in the late 1980's. For those who are not comfortable on the new breed of large resort ships, the Renaissance vessels, with their private yacht-like atmosphere, offer an ideal alternative. With only 48 suites the usual complement of passengers is

around 90, resulting in a marvellously spacious feeling throughout the vessel. Each cabin has a colour television, VCR, refrigerated bar, marble and teak bathroom, a spacious sitting room, generous wardrobe and drawer space and a comfortable bedroom.

The single sitting dining room is as elegant a room as you would find on any luxury ship and the food, as you might expect from an Italian run galley, is excellent. Other public areas are similarly luxurious and include a lounge, a bar and a library. In addition there is a beauty salon, a hospital and a sports area as well as a good sized swimming pool and sun and observation areas over two decks.

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### SAILING FROM VENICE TO MONTE CARLO ABOARD THE RENAISSANCE IV 15-25 July and 1-11 September 1996\*

A veritable least of art and architecture await those fortunate enough to join our party aboard the Renaissance IV as she sails between Venice and the French Riviera. In Venice, 'Bride of the Sea'. we will moor overnight allowing for a complete day of exploration which will include the wonders of the Byzantine and Renaissance periods.

Sailing out of Venice in the early evening is a wondrous sight. This will be followed by a day cruising the Adriatic en-route to Corfu, when we shall make the most of the vessel's excellent facilities. Our itinerary will take us from the lovely island of Corfu to Sicily, an and where the whole history of the Mediterranean is mirrored, and on to the Amalfi Coast. Here, amongst some of the most enchanting coastal scenery imaginable, we will visit the remarkable Roman city of Pompeii and the lovely

tsle of Capri.

Before continuing our Italian journey
we will make a deviation to the beautiful southern coast of Corsica and from there return to the Italian resort of Portofino. This is surely one of the most picturesque and romantic coastal towns anywhere along the shores of the Mediterranean.

Following the Tuscan coast we will reach Livorno, our port for Florence. The Renaissance, one of the great epochs of European civilisation, originated here in the great city of Florence and our full day excursion will include some of its treasures.

Our final port will be Monaco where we will have a full day to explore the principality and the Rivie mooring allowing us to enjoy Monte (

This date operates in reverse order from

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Not included: Travel insurance, airport taxes, tips to ship's crew.

era beyond as well as an overni Carlo by night. Monte Carlo to Venice.
THE ITINERARY
DAY 1 London-Venice
DAY 2 Venice
DAY 3 At sea
DAY 4 Corfu
DAY 5 Taormina
DAY 6 Sorrento, Amalfi Coast
DAY 7 Bonifacio
DAY 8 Portofino
DAY 9 Liverno for Florence
DAY 10 Monte Carlo
DAY 11 Monte Carlo - London



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## TRAVEL

INDIA: Stephen McClarence in Dharamsala joins the horde ...

## Levis and lamas on the road to Shangri-La

hey sit in the Rising Horizon café nibbling their banana cake and sipping their cinnamon tea. Crows caw outside the window. . . "I had to enter an empty space," says a man with a greasy ponytail and John Lennon specs to a woman with a stubbly, shaved head. "You know - a real recess in my mind." At the next table, an ample

American matron is sharing wisdom with a maroon-robed Buddhist monk. "The bottom line of consciousness," she drawls, "is that we are whole. And how many parts are there in a whole?" The monk stares deep into his dinner. How many steamed dumplings are

Day 7 Yaroslavi - a city sight-seeing tour will include the

churches of the Korovniki over-looking the Volga and fine exam-ples of the town's 16th-century

Day 8 Cruise along the Volga

to Uglich. Founded in the 12th

century, it was here that Ivan the Terrible's youngest son, Dmitri, was murdered Wevisitthe Church

of St Demetrius, built on the spot

where his body was found. On our

valking tour we will also see the

medieval Kremlin. Sail in the

Moskva reaching Moscow itself in

the late morning. A city tour is arranged for the afternoon.

Day 10 Morning city tour of Moscowtoincludethemajorsights

uch as Red Square, St Basil's Ca-

Day 11 Transfer to the airport

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Day 9 Sail along the River

evening towards Moscow.

thedral and the Kremlin.



there in a bowl of soup? We are talking ego-tourism up here in Dharamsala, in what the road signs call The Valley of Peace and Love. Perched on a ridge high in the outposts of beli-bottoms and tie-dye T-shirts, droopy moustaches and floppy velvet hats. It's Dreadlocksville, man, and,

hey, it really grooves.

People who look as though they ve been tied up in a sack since Woodstock come here, up hairpin-bends, to crash out. to space out, to get high in the Himalayas. They come for the karma, for the dharma, for the Dalai Lama. His Holiness, as all call

him, has been based here with his Tibetan Government-inexile and 5,000 of his followers since 1960. His presence has helped turn McLeodganj, at the upper end of Dharamsala. from a scruffy Indian hill station into a state of mind, a Nirvana-Nirvana land, a cool Kathmandu-substitute for Crosby, Stills, Nash and the not-so-Young. It's a whiff of New Age for 1960s freaks approaching old age and it vibrates with Grateful Dead. pulsates with Pink Floyd.

People come here, 300 miles north of Delhi, expecting Shangri-La. What they find is, at heart, a shanty town. McLeodganj - McLeod Nine, some call it — has open sewers and rubbish-strewn hillsides. The Zen Video Theatre screens the World Wrestling Federation. The bazaars are stacked with cassettes of Prayer Music for World Peace, Lhasa karaoke and trinkets for the Westerners who dress like Tibetans. A fair few Tibetans



Monks tread the hard mountain road to Dharamsala, but for many truth lies at the end

prefer Levis and trainers. The Dalai Lama goes for stout walking shoes and a yellow umbrella. Since boyhood he has been campaigning against the Chinese persecution of Tibetans. His directness throws into relief the woozy romanticism of many of his Western followers, with their sentimental vision of the Lost Horizon. His press releases

carry an e-mail code. in his private audience room, he offers a crisp critique of materialism and says he doesn't expect the West's interest in Buddhism to end with him, despite the personality cult others have created. His every word is treasured. A glimpse of him in a passing car lights up Tibetan faces. Hands press involuntarily together in prayer. His subjects spend weeks trudging over

mountains to catch sight of him at Tibetan new year rituals that seem to echo down from a distant age.

ple courtyard, twirling their creaking prayer wheels. Old women, with faces like creased leather and bright silk threads braided into their hair, squat. Bells chime. Monks chant in low growls. Multicoloured prayer flags flutter like pennants at a regatta. The scent of burning juniper wafts over

prostrating pilgrims. Suddenly priests in plumed yellow hats stream from the temple and conch-shell fanfares sound over the mountains. It is as mystically "other" as you could hope for.

The Dalai Lama can bring it

all instantly down to earth. He

ing. In his spare time from being a god-king, a reincarnation of divine compassion and a living Buddha to 14 million people, he enjoys repairing broken clocks in his workshop. And his laugh is seismically cheerful.

bustles purposefully through

the crowd like a civil servant

late for a departmental meet-

Dharamsala is a town full of exiles - Tibetans exiled from their country, truth-seeking Westerners exiled from their own culture. When they leave their guest houses - 50p a night gets you a dormitory bed and the Tibetans' startling warmth and hospitality — the truth-seekers can sign on for retreats or have their palms read at Mr Prakash's Self-Search Centre. He offers

Continued on next page

## Russian Waterways of the Golden Ring

I he opening of the waterways between St Petersburg and Moscowallows us to link a visit to two great cities with a relaxing cruise that travels the Neva River, Lake Ladoga, the Svir River, Lake Onega, the Baltic Canal, White Lake, the Volga River and finally the Moscowand Volga Canal. This intricate system of waterways has a beauty that is hard to describe. silverbirchandpine forests.sandy shores, calm flowing water and spectacular late sunsets, in these realms of the White Nights'. Calls will be at such historic towns as Uglich, where the blue cupolas decorated with the golden stars of the riverside church make asturn ninglandmark.

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For many the visit to Kizhi Island in Lake Onega will be the highlight of the waterway jour-ney. Here the magnificent Church of the Transfiguration with its 22 shimmering grey domes in three tiers are more than a match for the fairytale splendour of Moscow's St Basil's. Prom here we cruise through the fascinating waterway nthrough Contsylothecities of the Golden Ring, stopping at Volga.These magical cities of Holy Russia still preserve their medi-eval kremlins, fortified monasteriesand churches, in surroundings

iotefrom the modern world. For this journey we have selected not as high a standard as our other vessel the MV Kirov, offers very good facilities considering the competitive tariff. This is especially relevant in view of the high hotel prices now applied in Russiadue to the westernisation of the hotels. This tour will therefore appeal to those wishing to see unspoilt parts of Russia from an economical and comfortable base.

The MS Karamzin This comfortable, well-maintained ship was built in German vand partially renovated this year. All cabins are outside with large picture window (except those on the Lower Deckthat have two portholes), private shower, toilet and individual temperature control: the ship is full vairconditioned. The bright pleasant restairrant has windows on three sides offering views as you dine. Cuisine (Russian and Continental) is adjusted to western taste. There is a main lounge/bar with live music, several morelounges, a souvenir shop, beauty shop and ample deck space. Laundry service is available and a medical doctor is on board. As the shin is now underWesternmanagement, you can



linking St Petersburg with Moscow along the quiet rivers, lakes and canals of Rusia on the MS Karamzin - 10 nights from £695.00



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Itinerary Day 1 Depart from London Gatwick by air to St Petersburg. Drive to the MS Karamzin which will moor in St Peters-

Day 2 in the morning a sightseeing tour of the city will include the Fortress of St Peter and St Paul. Day 3 Visit the Hermitage Museum

in the morning. Afternoon visit to Pushkin theblueandgoldrococopalace designed for the Empress Elizabeth by

Rastrelli. In the afternoon explore St. Petersburg. Sail in the evening. Day 4 Svir Stroy - the day is spent leisurely cruising Lake Ladoga and the

Svir River stopping at the village of Svir Stroy, a quaint riverside village. Day 5 Kizhi Island - sail across Lake Onegato Kizhi Island Atourwill encompass some splendid examples of 18thsian architecture including typical wooden churches, houses with

Day 6 Goritsy - sail along the Baltic Canal and across White Lake to the town of Goritsy to visit the well-preserved

July 3, 13\*.24 August31\*

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Longer Duration A 14-night itinerary is also available at a supplement of £240 per per-son on the following dates: May 25 (ex. Moscow), June 8 (ex. St Petersburg), August 3 (ex. Moscow) and August 17 (ex. St Petersburg). Please co for further details.

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venture to the cities of Brazil's past and present: Rio de Janeiro, a vibrant city reflecting Brazil's exotic mix of peoples and cultures; the historical town of Ouro Preto which was declared a national monument in 1933 and Salvador in Bahia, with its wealth of colonial architecture.

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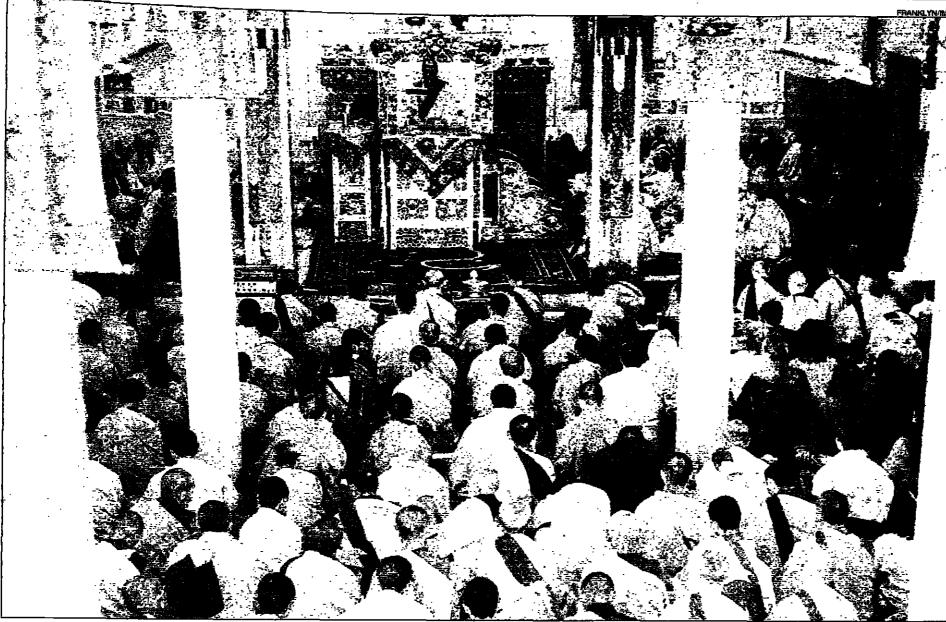
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## ... of truth-seekers at the court of the Dalai Lama; and haunting palace hideaways in Rajasthan's hills



Listened to in awe by priests and Western backpackers, the Dalai Lama gives teachings at the Namgal Monastery in the McLeodganj shanty town area of Dharamsala

Continued from page 18 rebirthing, magnetology and inner-body cleansing (with water techniques). He has cures for "confusion, inferiority complex, misery due to doubts, cold, catarrh, obesity. paralysis, pessimistic attitude and pain in the knees".

Down the road. Dr Yeshi Dhonden, the Dalai Lama's physician, holds surgeries for visitors. A young French woman brings a urine sample in a jam jar. Dr Dhonden pours it into a mixing jug and whisks it as though preparing an omelette. He feels her pulse, forbids ice-cream and prescribes pills that include elephants' gailstones. It wasn't always like this, a

Little Tibet in India. In the half-light of his 136-year-old general store. Mr N.N. Nowrojee is nostalgic for "the good old days" when Dharamsala was a fashionable British hill resort, a place for colonials to escape the heat of the plains. His father imported whisky and uncut cheese for the soldiers and administrators.

The 1940s advertisements for Peak Freans' Glaxo biscuits and the Valet Auto-Strop Safety Razor still hang over the counters. Look at this album, he says — page after sepia page of plus-fours and pith helmets and people certain they were doing the right thing by India. Most of them are now in the St John-in-thepoignant, forlorn place, full of inspectors of telegraphs and surgeon-majors straight out of Kipling. Full of apothecaries to the 32nd Gordon Highlanders and wives of adjutants who died in their twenties after burying their infant children.

Charde and Hardwicke Holderness. L Cubitt Sparkhall Rundle and the Rev John Nepomuk Merk. Here, too, a man killed by a bear and a lot of people killed in a 1905 earthquake that brought Dharamsala's popularity with the British to a rapid close. The town has enjoyed a

Wilderness churchyard. It's a revival in recent years. Rich Indian couples who no longer go to Kashmir for their honeymoon come here instead. Flash new hotels have been thrown up to cater for them. In their designer leisure wear, the honeymooners mix uneasily with the Tibetans and the vould-be Tibetans.

For all the changes, some of the old magic lingers. At sunser, the Himalayas glow pink and seem to float on purple clouds. On starry nights, the moonlight glistens on the snowy mountains. The views, says the guidebook, are so stunning that colonial Brits went into ruptures over them". But then, the hills are very steep round here.

### How to get there and where to stay

☐ The author flew to Delhi with Air India (return flights from £440), booked through Trailfinders (0171-938 3366). Swissair (0171-434 7300) offers flights from £373. British passport holders need a visa.

☐ Dharamsala is most easily reached from Delhi: by bus, the journey takes up to 13 hours and the fare is about £2; the train from Delhi to Pathankot takes about 11 hours and costs around £2 - then comes a three-hour bus journey to Dharamsala (fare 50p). A taxi from Delhi costs about £60 and is far more comfortable.

☐ In Dharamsala, a double room at the Dhauladhar Hotel costs about £14 a night. The hotel is comfortable, well-run and has superb views of the mountains from its terrace. Travellers on a tight budget will find many guest houses that charge as little as £2 a night.

☐ For further information about Dharamsala, contact the Government of India Tourist Office. 7 Cork Street. London WIX 1PB (0171-437 3677).

## Mirrors reflect a glorious past

n my first visit to India well, or visit the village below a year ago, we hurtled round Rajasthan's golden triangle - Delhi, Agra and Jaipur — within four days. The India of the mogul emperors offers magnificent sights. It is an exhilarating experience — but joining the hectic tourist shuttle, especially after an overnight flight and death-defying drives along India's roads, is draining.

My second visit last week was a gentler and more evocative introduction to Rajasthan. Within 12 hours of leaving London, we were relaxing at a 15th-century fort-palace above the village of Neemrana after a two-hour drive from Delhi.

Since it is concealed in the Aravalli ranges, you cannot even see the Neemrana Fort-Palace from the main Delhi-Jaipur road a mile away. It is one of India's secrets - a series of stepped palaces sprawling across three acres of hillside, with 35 rooms, each overlooking arid plains dotted with small hills. After a night in economy.

this is undoubtedly the way to start an Indian holiday, offering an opportunity to relax and absorb the unhurried Indian way of life. At Neemrana, all is tranquillity. There are no phones, the fax doesn't work, there is no room service and the supply of water and electricity is erratic "While the generators are switched on when the necessity arises, guests are requested to switch centuries by using candles and lanterns." says the management, adding, in a touch of Fawlty Towers.

that the "minor inconveniences" may include not being able to find their room. When they do, however. they are magnificent, each with a balcony or terrace, an ample supply of candles and with green parakeets swooping to the parapets. Don't go to Neemrana, however, if your boredom threshold is low. There is nothing to do here but stand and stare, enjoy the terraced gardens of bougain-

villea, admire the palace of

breezes, walk across the plain

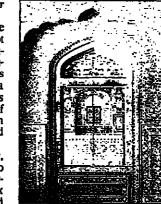
to the nearby 18th-century

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into training and new technology. We recruit our staff first and foremost on the basis of their people skills and

An alternative first-day stopover, four hours from Delhi, is Samode, another hideaway, a Disneyesque, 18th-century yellow palace, approached through a massive gateway.

There is much more to admire at Samode, 25 miles from Jaipur. The highlight is the Sheesh Mahal. Samode's palace of mirrors, its walls and ceiling exquisitely decorated with convex mirror glass and red and yellow glass set in plaster, interspersed with murals - as stunning, say experts, as the more famous



Exquisite frescoed walls in the Samode Palace

Sheesh Mahal at Jaipur's Amber Palace. The red Durbar Hall below is decorated with paintings and gilding. Both are hauntingly beautiful.

After the solitude of Samode or Neemrana, you are much better prepared to race round the golden triangle.

#### **BRIAN MACARTHUR**

• The author was a guest of Greaves Travel (0171-487 9111). tours of India The six-day trip. excluding flights. costs from £490 pp rused on two sharing. ☐ He flew with British Airways - return flight to Delhi costs from £419. ☐ By British standards, even five star hotels in India are relatively cheap. Rooms at Neemrana range from £20 to £50 accommodating three or four. to £100 for a deluxe suite for four. with dinner for \$7 Similar prices operate at Samode

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## TRAVEL

LONDON: The ghosts of seafarers, dockers and Pepys are conjured up between Rotherhithe and Bankside



#### otherhithe might not would think of as a starting point for a walk through London. Its greatest claim to historical significance is as the point from which the Mayllower began its journey to New England. And some might say that people have been trying to get out of Rotherhithe ever

But if you leave the capital's tourist traps and explore the south bank of the Thames from Rotherhithe to Bankside, you'll find dramatic riverscapes and a stretch of historic waterfront that has so far escaped being repackaged as "heritage" London.

The walk begins at the Mayflower, an antiquated waterside inn behind Rotherhithe Tube station. It was from a mooring near here that the Mayflower set sail in July 1620, travelling first to the south coast to collect the passengers who were to be remembered as the Pilgrim Fathers, the first permanent colonists of New England.

The captain of the Mayflower. Christopher Jones, and many of his crew are buried in the nearby graveyard of St Mary's, a church full of plaques reminding visitors that Rotherhithe was once a village of seafarers, shipbuilders and dockers. The once-

## A Dickens of a riverside walk

thriving river trade has almost disappeared and the walk catches a corner of London still in the process of change. In Rotherhithe you can see where the cross-currents of decline and redevelopment meet, with expensive new

houses, still dusty from the contractors' lorries, standing beside abandoned docks machinery. Across the river it's a scene of sharp contrasts, with the Gotham City skyline of Canary Wharf visible in the same frame as the crumbling Rotherhithe waterfront, with little sound except the clanking of old barges on empty piers.

The walk continues westwards, following a narrow alley past St Mary's churchyard towards another historic pub, the Angel, mentioned by Samuel Pepys in his diary. There are atmospheric river views up to Tower Bridge here, and beside the Angel there is evidence of a royal connection, in the recently excavated ruins of a manor house built for Edward III in the 1350s. Although so close to the centre of London, there is an eerie quietness here, a sense that becomes stronger as you leave the waterfront to walk along Bermond-Wall. Between the road and the river are the empty and bricked-up warehouses that, together with along wharves Tooley Street. were known as

"London's lar-

der", a stretch of uninterrupted warehouses where, in its Victorian heyday, 75 per cent of the capital's butter, bacon and cheese were brought ashore and stored.

Dickensian is another word that springs to mind. As you follow the road from Bermondsey Wall to the warehouses on Mill Street and St Saviour's Dock, you pass the site of what was once Jacob's Island, the notorious den of poverty and vice that Dickens used as the setting for Bill Sikes's hang-out in Oliver Twist. When you look around at the upmarket apartments, it's worth remembering that this was the setting for some of Dickens's most angry prose as he railed against the "dirtbesmired walls and decaying foundations; every repulsive loathsome indication of filth,

rot and garbage". As you walk

the style-conscious restaurants of the refurbished Butler's Wharf - known as Terence Conran's "gastrodome" — and the studied minimalism of the Design Museum, it's a challenge to the imagination to read Dickens's description of the scene, where "labourers,

ballast-heavers, coal-whippers, brazen women, ragged children and the very raff and refuse of the river ... are assailed by offensive sights and smells from narrow alleys and deafened by the ponderous wagons that bear great piles of merchandise from the warehouses that rise from

every corner" Past Butler's Wharf, the path emerges at Tower Bridge, taking you into the heart of coach-party country. Following the river, you soon come to War cruiser that is now a museum. But these are well-

looking for something more unusual, it's worth taking a five-minute detour to the Old Operating Theatre Museum on St Thomas's Street.

This small museum is packed with a wince-inducing collection of historical medical instruments and a 19th-century operating theatre where surgeons practised their carpentry skills on unfortunate, unanaesthetised patients.

ack on the riverside path, the walk continues beneath the arch of London Bridge into a paved area beside Southwark Cathedral.

The cathedral is worth a visit in itself, with its architecture an assembly of styles from the medieval to the Victorians' version of medi-Edmund is buried there, as is the poet and friend of Chaucer, further to Shad Thames, past worm paths and, if you're John Gower. To escape the

from the cathelane that contains a medieval rose window (the remains of the palace of the bishops of Winchester) and whose name is synonymous

with prisons everywhere. The worldly bishops once ran the Clink prison on this site. After the Reformation, in the religious vendettas of the 16th century. Protestant and Catholics were held in the Clink before being burnt at the stake in Smithfield. For an idea of how cruel prison life could be, the Clink Prison Museum has a gruesome selection of torturers' tools.

Beyond Clink Street is Bankside — where Londoners from the Middle Ages to the English Civil War took a walk on the wild side - with its theatres, buil and bear-baiting pits, brothels and taverns. The most spectacular reminder of this mixture of red-light district and arts centre is the reconstruction of the Globe Theatre, in which the thatched, wooden structure were performed has been recreated near to the pre-

sumed site of the original. TIMES/COCA-COLA COMPETITION

in last week's article on the Salute to Folk Art design competition. Joanne Alexan-der. of Gillingham. Kent, in the list of runners-up.

the emergence of Bankside as a new cultural centre will be the transformation of the deserted Bankside power station into a new Tate Gallery. This huge brick structure is an industrial cathedral, echoing the shape of St Paul's facing it across the Thames.

Its windows are broken and you can still sit here in peace on a bench overlooking the river and feel that you are in a hidden part of London. But all around there are signs of change. Behind the power station, New York-style warehouse apartments are being built and, in the abandoned wharves, chic art galleries are opening, like the first missionaries of gentrification. It's worth visiting the area now before everything changes.

SEAN COUGHLAN

385.7.7.

### WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 25

The site of the Rose Theatre,

where Shakespeare acted and Christopher Marlowe's plays

were first performed, is nearby. But, despite the uncover-

ing of its foundations in 1989.

the remains of the Rose are

still hidden. If you're looking for the site, it's behind smoked

glass in the basement of an

office block on the corner of

Rose Alley and Park Street.

The site is unmarked as

though this were a guilty

secret rather than an interna-

opens this year as planned, these cobbled, empty riverside

streets could soon be filled

When the Globe playhouse

tional landmark.

(b) & or a corruption of "and per se — and", the old way of spelling and naming the character & . "Of all the types in a printer's hand/ Commend me to the ampersand.

(c) Namely, from the Latin for "it is allowed to see", as you see. Viz. is written for the spoken namely. It introduces especially the items that compose what has been expressed as a whole. "For three good reasons, viz I... 2... 3." Or a more particular statement of what has been vaguely described. "My only means of earning, viz. my talent for conjuring tricks." BASSARID

(a) A Thracian bacchanal, a bacchante. The Greek word derived from bassara a fox, probably from their dress, made of fox-skins. Swinburne, Atalanta in Calydon, 1865: "And Pan by noon and Bacchus by night... fills with delight/ The Maenad and the Bassarid."

(c) In Brazil, a shack, shanty; a slum. Usually in the plural favelas, a collection of improvised huts, a shanty town. Hence favelado a person living in a favela. The Portuguese word. We cannot admire Rio's skyline for the squalid favelas nestling between her sugar-loaf hills."



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### A guide to the Rotherhithe-Bankside walk

☐ Getting there: the walk, without rushing, takes about 90 minutes. The starting point can usually be reached by Tube to Rotherhithe but the East London line is currently suspended and a replacement bus service links stations. If you want to begin at Bankside, take the Tube to Mansion House and cross Southwark Bridge, or walk along the river path on the south bank of the Thames from Waterloo or Blackfriars bridges.

Places of interest: Design Museum, £4.50, open daily 11.30am-6pm, weekends noon-6pm (0171-378 6055).

☐ HMS Belfast: £4. open daīly 10am-6pm (last ticket 5.15pm) (0171-407 6434).

☐ Tower Bridge: £5, open daily 9.30am-6pm (0Ĭ71-407 0922).

☐ Old Operating Theatre Museum: £2, open

daily from 10am-4pm except some Mondays (0171-955 4791). ☐ Southwark Cathedral: admission free, open daily 8am-6pm (0171-407 2939).

10am-6pm (0171-403-6515). ☐ Globe Theatre Exhibition: £4, open daily 10am-5pm (0171-928 6406).

☐ Clink Prison Museum: £2.50, open daily

☐ Eating and drinking: the walk passes three historic pubs with river views and food - the Mayflower, 117 Rotherhithe Street, the Angel, 24 Rotherhithe Street and the Anchor. 1 Bankside. Restaurants en route tend to be expensive, such as the "Gastrodome" at Butler's Wharf, which includes Pont de la Tour and Le Cantina. For a more modest meal continue past Bankside, beyond Blackfriars Bridge to the Gourmet Pizza Company, at Gabriel's Wharf.

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SKIING: George Brock finds the wide runs of the Canadian and American Rockies a trail-blazing pleasure

# Slopes with that champagne feel

Rockies The Times was full of hairraising stories about a marauding front of cold weather had been freezing North America over the previous 48 hours. People in Nebraska had been chucking saucepans of boiling water in the air and watching the contents hit the ground as solid ice.

Digesting this news. my wife said that until that morning she had been envious of my trip, but now that America's thermometer was down around -40C, she had stopped feeling in the least bit jealous. "Rather you than me," she said archly. I left for Heathrow with low morale and thermal underwear. Our party emerged from the

plane in Calgary, to the west of the Rockies, to be met by a man wearing nothing warmer than a polo shirt. The cold snap had been and gone. But Canadians do measure cold by different yardsticks. I asked a ski guide how he defined passable skiing weather. "Oh, anything down to minus 15," he said. A woman described herself rather apologetically as a "fair weather skier". This turned out to mean that she dropped out when the temperature fell below -IOC. With elaborate apologies for the interruption of service, the skilift men halt their machinery when it gets down around -30C. Brass monkeys do not feature in Canadian weather conversation.

Nor do they have "pistes". Language is another cultural adjustment you have to make. Pistes are "trails". Trails are not smoothed by piste-bashers but "groomed". This jargon produced an enchanting headline in one local newspaper winter: "Ski groomers



mistakenly bury rare fish." The half-track drivers accidentally shovelled snow over a stream which is home to the rare B-strain of the Colorado River cutthroat trout.

This is not the well-trodden landscape of the European Alps but a vaster, less-developed mountain range. In the foothills of the Rockies, farms have their own airstrips. I ate a buffalo steak (a touch chewy) at the Grizzly House in Banff but passed up a side order of rattlesnake. Cigar Aficionado is a big seller in newsagents. Every Hollywood movie featuring anything larger than a foothill - from Cool Running to A River Runs Through It seems to have been shot hereabouts. But alongside the macho Mariboro man culture sits energetic environmental activism. The signs in the bathroom don't just tell you to save water but that the sign itself is made out of recycled plastic bottles.

Banff, the headquarters town for several ski areas, sits inside a national park, where the authorities have put a stop to new building and watch the ski developers like hawks. The town and its ski areas are thus

more primitive and less developed than European skiers might expect. The buildings at Norquay (pronounced Nor-kway) are Portakabins, until they rebuild the small skiers'

centre, which burnt down. On the basis of looking at four sets of trails within reach of Banff, the advantages of skiing the Rockies clearly outweigh the disadvantages. But here are the pluses and the minuses to put in the scales. On the plus side: Canadian

slopes are gloriously uncrowded. I spent the first few days looking over my shoulder, as you naturally do on French pistes, where skiing tends to feel like driving on a motor-way. I gradually learnt that when you look round there is, as often as not, no one there. The scenery is devastatingly beautiful, with longer views and more trees than you tend to see in the Alps. (The towns are less wonderful and a lot more ordinary to look at.)

At the moment, the Canadian dollar is low against the pound and life outside the hotel and off the slopes need not cost much. You can get a three-course meal for C\$20 (£10). At the Grizzly House in Banff you pay more, but alligator fondue is on the menu. I tried bits of alligator fried in breadcrumbs a few days later in Colorado and they were chewy, too. I still prefer fish fingers.

People are friendly. It's nice to be asked, "How are you doing today?" by almost everyone you meet, at least some of whom mean it.

The snow is dry and powdery (most of these areas are at around 2,000m). One morning we began skiing in heavy snow but by lunch the sky had cleared and we were on an inch and a half of freshly fallen powder. It was like sailing on



Winter Park, Colorado is working hard to rival its better-known rivals, Vail and Aspen

does not exist in Canada. In the Rockies snowboarding is a skill, not an attitude. Children, who learn to ski at school, can opt to learn snowboarding. A few wear grunge clothes, but they don't have the lagerswilling, drunk-at-the-wheel approach that gives boarders

The snowboarder menace such high speed and low oes not exist in Canada. In control in the Alps. At Sunshine Village, a snowboarder actually said, "After you" to me. I was so surprised I nearly

ran into a tree. A few drawbacks in Canada need underlining. Because of planning restrictions and the

fact that the resorts are young.

you can't ski to the door of your hotel or apartment. Shuttle buses are too few and far between to be much help to parents who want to get exhausted young skiers back to the chalet as quickly as possible. In the Rockies, it will pay to look at holidays which include the hire of a car - or,

How to get there, where to stay

☐ George Brock was a guest of Crystal Holidays (0181-399 5144) and Air Canada (0990 247226). Return flights to Calgary and a ten-day stay at either the Banff Springs or Château Lake Louise costs £500-£650 per person for the rest of the season. Demand is rising in these areas, so expect at least a 15 per cent rise in prices next season. Accommodation costs in Colorado's Winter Park are similar in less exotic hotels. Ski, stick and boot hire for ten days costs about £80-£90 at Lake Louise and about £60 in Banff; a three-area lift pass is about £175. Hire of a Ford Escort is £75 for ten days, a 4x4 Mustang £115.

☐ Helped by the start of direct Air Canada flights between Calgary and Denver, Crystal offers "2-nation vacations". For reservations call 0181-241 5000. ☐ Internet wonks can check out the snow at Lake Louise on http://skilouise.softnc.com/louise.html.

even better, a 4x4. The areas are smaller than their Alpine counterparts. Among the areas reachable from Banff, only Lake Louise comes close to European dimensions.

Two striking hotels make Banff a little different. The Banff Springs dominates the town as any \$15-room hotel would be bound to do. The interior is an odd combination of mock Scottish laird's castle and a Tokyo shopping arcade.
Japanese skiers flock to the Banff Springs, partly because it features regularly as a honeymoon destination in one of Japan's most popular tele-

håteau Lake Louise, Canadian Pacific's other monster hotel in the neighbourhood, is a shade less exotic but a good deal more elegant. The château would be worth staying in even if it were a B&B by virtue of its site on the end of a mountain lake. The entrance hall, roughly the dimensions of a small church, sports the largest modern reproduction Biedermeyer furniture and fittings I have ever seen. The rest of the public areas continue on the same scale, except for the health spa, which is cramped. Rooms are comfortable and recently redecorated. From the hotel you can cross-country ski, take sleigh rides, skate or watch rare winter arts, such as an ice sculpture competition. From Calgary we hopped

down to Denver to sample Winter Park, a Colorado re-sort working hard to compete with its better-known rivals -Vail, Aspen and Breckenridge. Winter Park enjoys all the have to try harder. You can ski there on a day trip by train: the station is at the foot of the lifts.

The ski area is one of the few in North America run as a non-profit operation and the slopes — some of the most spacious I have ever seen are dotted with intrepid disabled skiers. The most remarkable of these sit in chairs on skis and keep their balance with another pair of short skis on sticks. Winter Park's ski school for the disabled is one of a handful of such places in the world. We puffed round a glorious

cross-country circuit in sun-shine, disturbed only by the odd steaming competitor in a local race. We played billiards at a bar called Rome on the Range and were driven home by the manager when the local one-horse taxi company failed to show up. Winter Park is like that: homely and not starspangled, aiming mostly at American customers up for the weekend from Denver.

At the end of a whistle-stop tour, which American holiday firms like to call the "twonation vacation", one advantage stands out in the Rockies: the skiing is more relaxing because you're going down the slopes with fewer people.

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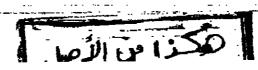
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## ETHIOPIA: Neither disease nor danger dents the excitement of an expedition through remote valleys

they remained wary, and as

we began to light fires and

dazzle them with light, they

drifted away into the dark-

Occasionally we came to a village, consisting of dome-shaped temporary shelters surrounding enclosures for livestock. Here, we would try

to buy milk, or a goat to eat as

a welcome addition to a basic

supply of rice, maize and

wheat flour carried with us. Although the inhabitants were

instinctively wary of us. we

were at no time aware of any

real hostility and felt privi-

leged to be among these col-

ourful and fascinating people.

struck us how vulnera-

ble their valley was to the

wind of change which

gusts through fragile so-

cial, cultural and environmen-

tal enclaves throughout the

continent. Theirs was a life-style on the brink of that

change and we could only

guess at how long they and the

surrounding wildlife would remain unaffected.

Farther south, our journey

involved crossing the Omo

River. Renowned for its man-

eating crocodiles farther

come to a point where we were

assured that crocodiles were

never seen. We and our ani-

mals swam across unhin-

dered. Now east of the river,

the plains became more arid

and the character of our

journey darkened as our con-

cerns focused increasingly on

access to water. The river was

impossible to reach, hidden by

an impenetrable thicket as it

meandered towards Kenya.

We had to rely on directions

we were amazed to

hy do you take faranje (foreigners) there?
They will surely
die, the road is very bad," cried a passing Bodi tribesman. "It's no problem," our guide re-plied. "These faranie are very strong." But within hours I felt the first shivers of malaria fever and was anything but strong. Such was my introduction to the Omo River Valley in south-west Ethiopia.

A friend, Ben Freeth, and I were travelling by foot with mules and donkeys from the Ethiopian highlands to the southern end of Lake Turkana in Kenya Awarded a travel-ling fellowship by the Winsion Churchili Memorial Trust. ! was on an expedition through a remote area which promised some of the most varied and adventurous country in Africa. For ten weeks we lived a dream, detached from our contemporary existence and witness to a land of magnificent natural beauty and exotic nomadic tribes.

green densely forested up-lands near Jima, where jungleshrouded hills and valley, are alive with colobus monkers. birds and butterties. !owering trees dripped with a sod-denness far from car econceptions of Ethiopian droughts. At times our animals would disappear into mud so thick that they struggled to get free.

Guided by three local men. we picked our way along tiny pathways often concealed by tall grass and on near impossible gradients. Our first attempted route to reach the Omo lea us down the Shenger River Valley to a remote and eene toper colony nesting beneath a chill from which a not sittle waterfall flowed. The least beneved this water had ....ling qualities and bathed regularly but, on seeing the extent of some of their defort lifes, we were not so demanded and were keen to colorida soon as pussible.

Jur galaes nowever, were by the lepers that no and public existed and rera Blany farther with and the control of th outennation for try to find a recte and continued alone

At the mercy of warriors and wilderness

through a band of thick forest However, being armed with to what seemed more encouraging open country. However, after hours forcing passage through a sea of never-ending, razor-sharp elephant grass, we admitted defeat, with no option but to retrace our steps to the highlands. We then began a ten-day

detour with new guides, following paths along an undulating escarpment ridge which afforded some spectacular views over the uninhabited valley 0,000ft below. Eventually, a descending track was found and, with morale high, we entered the lowlands for a second time. It was on reaching the valley floor, with the warning words of the tribesman echoing, that I lay weak with malaria, surrounded by near-naked warriors heavily armed with Kalashnikovs. We were among the nomadic inhabitants of the Omo Valley.

The hot savannah lowlands are home to several tribes who war:der the valley with their cartle and who still cling to angrent and, to us, sometimes r 5.37re traditions. Their societas have been protected from writernas influence by recent redirent turmoil and, perhaps more so, by a reputation for to tagety that continues to drive fear into their highland neighbours. This reputation is fuelled by regular inter-tribal clashes, where modern automatic weapons have recently replaced Stone Age instru-

ments of war. warriors, scarified with ornumental pride for each foe killed in battle, sat expressioniess around our camp, content to watch us for hours. We had been advised to travel through this area with an armed escort. only bolt-action rifles, it was no surprise when our three men decided that they had travelled far enough from their highland home and would go no farther.

We were left to fend for ourselves for six weeks as we continued south through the open plains to the west of the river. Wandering through these classic grassland plains.



where vast herds of game roam, we felt far from threatened. We enjoyed a genume solitude, our only concern the hordes of ticks which clung to us by day, and the presence of

Only once did the latter pose a serious threat. They startled our animals one night, causing them to stampede right over us as we slept, leaving us with bruises. With the lions roaring, we leapt up to secure the donkeys behind us and watched anxiously as the tawny shapes loitered nearby. their intense eyes gleaming in

from tribesmen to find water points. As temperatures soared and our animals began to suffer, we took to marching at night under a full

At this stage, illness again took its toll and, with dysentery, we were both stretched to our physical limits, having to walk up to 11 hours a day to

The animals also found this part of the journey exhausting and, before crossing the border and reaching Lake Turkana, we had lost two donkeys to the harsh desert conditions

The lake ended our water troubles. With relief we marvelled at the immense body of jade water surrounded, in contrast by vast desert and stunning lava deposits. The final two weeks made riveting walking as we followed the flamingo-fringed lake shore. The Sibloi National Park teemed with game grazing along a narrow grass belt separating lake from desert, and we were often accompanied by herds of zebra or topi antelope staring in curiosity at our animals.

The fossil riches of the area are well recognised and we noticed fragments of fossilised bone strewn for miles over the black lava fields. In this area live the Turkana, again a people almost unchanged for centuries. Adorned with decorative colour, they lead a frugal existence, tending goats and carnels.

Travelling through their timeless and dramatically barren land, our journey drew to an end. Here we felt we had reached a stage where the expedition had evolved from an exciting novelty to a lifestyle which we could have gladly continued indefinitely. echoing the words of T.S.

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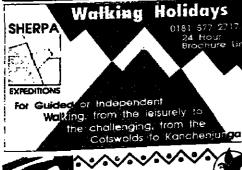
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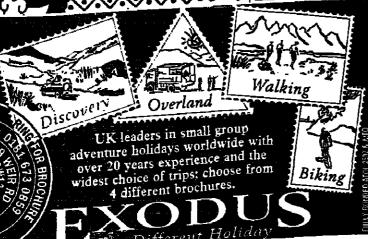
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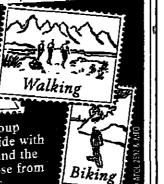
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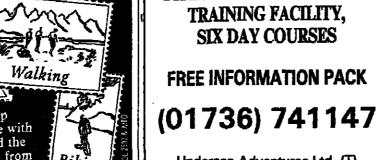
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TALL, handsome, fun-loving, vir-tie, hurds. 38 who's successful, professional. Intelligent, genu-tie nice guy. Seeks attractive, n/s. classy. curvy. wicked for in black seams and high heets to lattsh with romantic attention! 50-45. Photo: essential. Berist/London ares. Box 4533 TALL, lovable, charvinist, 37, seeks sizm, intelligent, fun-loving, attractive, central London lady 27 to 37. Box No 4287 TOYBOY 26. educated, attractive, tactile and romants; with GSOH, I am seeking a similar older lady who profers the company of a younger pain for 1-1 relationship. Photo approciated, London/Southeast. Please Reply to Box No 4088 TURKISH DELIGHT 27, good looking & athletic male ready to VERTY hardsome professional man 35, tall, sitm, dark haired, friendly, housest & romanic seeks lovety lady for lesting romance. Londony Surrey, Nants. Reply to Box No 4323 VALERTINE'S DAY pass you by loo. ball, slim, prof young 42, easy going, optomists; wells attractive, slim lady with SOH. Chemistry more inportant than age, interests including siding, suling, travel, thestre etc. E. Anglia/Landon. Photo appreciated. Box No. 3995 WARM-HEARTED chief execu-tive 442 London based, fond of laughter & log fires, seats soultmake 126-40). Photo appre-ciated but not executed. Please Repty to Box No 3918 TELES Wake up! Close Encoun-ters is ones Saturday and Sun. WHERE are you, my special friend? Fru 35. Northanks based, fore sport & fravel neeking 30-40 bright, fun, energetic lady. Please reply with a photo to Box No. 3507 WIDOWER 60's, enloys tratel home and abroad, eating out, couplry walks. Seeks that special lady tain slim, N/S to share the good things in life. Yorks/Derby/Notts. Please Reply to Box No 5858 SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS YOUTHFUL 66. retired Cambridge engineer living Rutland.
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DRECTIONS: These statements are designed to measure the way you feel in certain areas. There are no fight or wrong armers, so work quickly, marking the appropriate box beside each statement.

1-Clearly Agree, 2-Sightly Agree, 3-Neutral, 4-Sightly Disagree, 5-Clearly Disagree.

1 2 3 4 5

12345 00000 Physical contact is an important form of com-00000 I have to know someone for a long time before I can trust them. 00000 i have pleasant or 00000

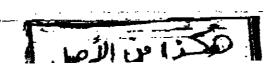
The man should pay for everything on a date. 00000 It's fun to surprise my friends with small gifts. 00000 Worryling too much about money spoils happines 00000 A strong relationship must include a good sex life. 00000 10. I believe in telling people If I Sirk they are making a

00000 INJ. TIPLE CHOICE - Circle best ensurer or answers.

I profer socialising and desing members of the opposite sex whose age range is a) 18-25 b)25-26 a c (36-49 d)over 60 lass currently a) single b) divorced c) widowed d) separated e) eligible to meet and date socially My annual income this year will be a juriour 10k b) 15-25k c) 25-35k d) 35-50k e) Over 50k

What are 8 tree most important characteristics that you lose

a) members of the opposite set?	LU JOKEK T	er m	•
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Beca your raply to. <i>Selective Singl</i> Berkaley House, 73 Upper Richmond Roa SW15 2SZ.	ės d. Pu	ine	γ.



pionship

Il 16 circuits

10 Pedro Diniz Brazilian GP starts:

kinshaw car could be t the drivers? Panis

∙re than promising; ∋ Pedro Diniz so tar

st year he could str around Adelaide

sig word for McLaren.

ng word in mcLaren, if really is that good, if is fully recovered, the sould be back with a a to test Hill and whining ways.

imacher mignt have the car is proven with some million to changes for the year and market.

26. 200 nga h<u>as</u>

8 David Coulthard British GP starts: 25

all we know.

Winners

**4DA** 

# by Raymond Keene

THIS WEEK I conclude my coverage of the fascinating match between Kasparov and IBM's Deep Blue computer. Given the computer's ability to see over 500 million moves per second, one might compare this match to a weightlifting contest between a human and a fork-lift truck. In this case, though, the human won.

nent

With game five, the world champion at long last moved into the lead, but only after he had offered a draw and the computer had declined. I have often advanced the theory that the existence of the draw in chess will be a tremendous barrier to computers ever demolishing human champions. The best human players are capable of playing perfectly in certain situations, so, in order to win, computers (or their human handlers) will occasionally be obliged to take

That is exactly what occurred in this game. The IBM team, follow-ing consultation with their grandmaster assistant, Joel Benjamin, decided to decline Kasparov's offer. Unfortunately for the computer. White had no real advantage, and during the middlegame Deep Blue, bereft of an obvious plan, began aimlessly moving its queen backwards and forwards. Kasparov swiftly seized his opportunity, hurled forwards his kingside pawn and smashed through White's defences.

> White: Deep Blue Black: Kasparov Philadelphia. Feb 1996 Scotch Game

Nc6 Bb4 d5 0-0 Be7 4 d4 6 Nxc6 8 exd5 10 Bg5 exd4 bxc6

This bishop retreat, prevents Bxf6 shattering Kasparov's pawns. A similar pawn structure weakness had cost him the first game.

12 Rae1 14 Bf4 16 Qg3 18 c4 20 Rxe8-22 Bxe4 Re8 Bd6 Bd7 13 Ne2 15 Nd4 17 Qxd4 19 cxd5 21 Qd2 23 b3

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game

Syverson - Podgorny, Germany

The white king is dangerously exposed on the queenside. How

did Black capitalise in fine style?

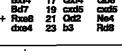
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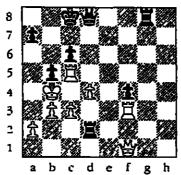
Street, London El 9XN. The first

three correct answers drawn on

Black to play.

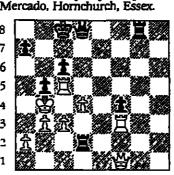
Saturday.





Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next

Last week's winners: A D Scott, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex: K Thomas, Aberystwyth, Dyfed; A



34 gxf4 36 Rxc3 38 Kf2 40 Rc3 42 Ke1 44 Rxd3 46 Kd4 e1Q 35 fxm5 Rxd4 37 b4 g5 39 Re3 Bc4 41 Re3 Rd3 45 K2 Bxd3 45 Ke3 Kf5 47 Kd5 White resigns.

Here Kasparov offered the draw

that was refused. This was unwise,

since Black has fully equalised and

even has some slight pressure

against White's knight on d4.

continue the experiment."

Kasparov, to his surprise, succeed-

pert, and consultant to Kasparov,

positions that the computer doesn't

White's queen-shuffling gives

Black's majority on the king's

flank has led to the creation of a

passed pawn which now costs

White a piece. The rest is easy.

29 g3 31 Kg2 33 Rd3

understand," he concluded.

24 Qc3 f5 25 Rd1 26 Qe3 'Bf7 27 Qc3

Kasparov an opportunity.

28 Rd2 30 a3

WINNE KOVE

Last week's solution: 1 Rxf6

### **PUNCHLINE**

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right). The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Cartoon caption (99), Weekend Games Page, The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN

The editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, March 13.



SOCIETIES WE ADMIRE (BUT DO NOT BELONG TOL-No. 7.



"Darling ... have you seen our pet tarantula?"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Mr K. W. Davis, of Farnham, Surrey

# WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard AMPERSAND

a. An ampere 1000 b. And c. Predecessor of blotting paper

VIZ a. A typeface

b. A masking letter c. Namely BASSARID

a. A foxy bacchanal b. A female bass

c. A helmet crest

FAVELA

a. A young deer b. Red-hot lava c. A slum shack

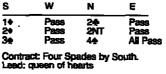
Answers on page 20

### BRIDGE

# by Robert Sheehan

IT IS as a writer that Terence Reese will be most remembered. He wrote more than 80 books on the game, including such classics as Reese on Play (1948), The Expert Game (1958) and Play Bridge with Reese (1960). The latter two came out when I was at university and I remember the excitement they generated in our bridge group. This quote from Reese on Play is still an admirable summary of what mat-ters in good bridge: "Ability to execute brilliant coups counts for very little compared with the consistent effort to follow what is going on among all four hands; how the cards are distributed and where the tricks are coming from."

This is a hand from The Expert Game, in the chapter called "Hold it!", which is about keeping control of critical side-suits. I give it as a defensive problem. You are West defending Four Spades. Reese doesn't give the bidding, merely stating that "after showing long diamonds. South played in Four Spades". A possible auction:



**\***A43 **♥**K65 **+**4 **♣**AJ10763 ₽762 ♥QJ104 ♦A852

You lead the queen of hearts, which holds, and continue hearts. Declarer follows again and trumps the third round with the ten of spades. South now plays the king of diamonds. How do you defend?

South almost certainly has a four-card spade suit and six diamonds. If you take the ace of diamonds he will be in control to draw trumps and run the diamonds. making four tricks in spades, five in diamonds and one in clubs. Even if you get that far, it isn't easy to see what you should do. You must duck, and duck the diamond continuation. Then your partner ruffs the third round of diamonds. This is the full deal.

**♥**K65 ♣AJ 10763 **±762 +985** E VA983 ♥QJ104 W ♦A852 **+93** . 9 **4KQ82 ★KQJ10 ₹72 ♦KQJ1076** 

• A 4 3

Reese and Boris Schapiro defended this hand in the Masters Pairs (The Expert Game doesn't reveal which way round they sat).

West did duck the king of diamonds, and the queen, and East ruffed the third round. Now East completed a great defence by playing a fourth round of hearts. A trump or a club would have enabled South to ruff out the ace of diamonds and draw trumps. But after the heart South was helpless - he could not both establish the diamonds and draw trumps.

COMPUTER CAMES AND PASTIMES

prove to be the year of pinball overkill as producers scramble to clamber aboard the latest cult bandwagon. The revival of Tommy, the Who's rock opera from 1969, opened at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Tuesday, bringing in its wake a clutch of early titles. Tommy, of course, is the deaf, dumb and blind kid turned pinball wizard.

Released by Maxis in America as Full Tilt, but in Britain as Pinball 95, this game only runs on Windows 95. The three tables, each of which is viewed in its entirety on one screen, include an updated version of Space Cadet, which was in the Microsoft Plus! companion for Windows 95. It accommodates up to four players in relay.

Sierra's 3D Ultra Pinhail Outpost Odyssey is a little less demanding, and comes on Mac and PC CD-Rom (for Windows 3.1, and later versions). But its claims of moving pinball gaming into a new dimension are tommy-rot; the tables are a fiddle and, certainly in the case of the review copy, sound effects are noticeable only by their absence. Instead, the pick of the current

pinball bunch has to be Virgin

IN GAMING terms, 1996 could Interactive's Tilt, which puts a spin on the genre by injecting energy and excitement into the gameplay. The six colourful tables are well designed and players feel that they, as much as the ball, are being thrown around thanks to fast-changing, zooming viewing angles. sound effects and music scores are further treats in

this solid and engaging title. The problem of all too many computer pintables is their lack of flair. Dragon's Fury and Dragon's Revenge. originally from Tengen, are old Sega Mega Drive titles, but their originality and ability to come to life is still to be bettered. In addition to

flicking and flipping balls at static objects, these tables are swarming with other moving targets - minia- and in triggering "specials" you are led to new inner tables. Tengen's games came out three

or four years ago and, since then, we should have been treated to an abundance of mesmerising new ideas such as, perhaps, musical tables in which hitting different targets triggers successive rhythms

# by Tim Wapshott

musical styles and moods.

Few companies have released more pinball titles in the last two years than 21st Century, though only its more recent games have



A Tommy revival fuels pinball mania

been worth buying. However, by the summer the company plans to release the Pinball Construction players to design their own tables from more than 60 basic themes.

The official Tommy spin-off is due shortly from Interplay. Tommy: The Interactive Adventure, on PC and Mac CD-Rom, is an interactive exploration of the opera, featuring album, movie and theatre show snippets as well as

THE LISTEMEN CROSSWORD

lyrics, interviews and other memorabilia to please those hankering for the nitty-gritty and melodies in ever-changing low-down of the rock product 27 vears on. Alternatively, Ken Russell's bleak movie of the opera is out on CDi and stars Ann-Margaret, Roger Daltrey, Oliver Reed, Jack Nicholson and, by far the best thing in it, Elton John's

timeless Pinball Wizard performance. Also on CDi is The Who — Thirty Years of Maximum R&B Live which features 28 live Who performances, al-

though not all of them are especially well known. Elton John is one of the 70 artisis featured on MTV Unplugged. From Viacom New

Media on PC and Mac CD-Rom. this is a disappointing database hooked into the channel's acoustic of artists, details of their appearances on the show and even hear a few familiar song chords. Some complete performances can also be played, but invariably not the ones you'd most like to hear such as, say, Elton's.

Unveiling Cyberspace Twenty-Two should be music to your ears

as you learn that we have three excellent Logitech scanners to be won. First prize is the company's top-of-the-range PageScan Color, which can be used as a hand-held scanner or, for best results, works as a self-feeding device with documents up to A4 size. Second prize is a ScanMan Color and third prize is a ScanMan 256, colour and black-and-white hand-held scanners respectively. All come with editing software allowing you simply to plug in and start scanning anything from favourite photographs to logos, maps and documents.

To enter Cyberspace Twenty-Two you must write a treatment for a suitable new movie to be made by Ken Russell. Entries must be between 150 and 250 words, include your name, age, address and home telephone number and be sent to: Cyperspace Iwenty-Iwo, Combu er Games, Weekend, The Times, I Pennington Street, London El 9XN. You may also fax entries on 0171-729 6791. The competition is open to all ages and the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.

you I get the story." Tommy (1969).

# rer just waiting to dom in Jean Alesi, ker style allied to the I experienced raer could be the raer could be the season, in I come out of 1996 glory, it won't be for trying. "From you I get opinions. From

vork not permitted ore than 500mm he car centre line nust be fitted means of

ar stops le length exhausts ger permitted

ork not permitted n 300 and

396 miles 1 51 095s 3.42mph) pa is one of the lights and heavy

·1 miles 3.575s, .24 mph) h 200mph

r carved his way

ticanes. Teams ce downtorce to watch the set-up corners which

39 miles I 1m 22,446s. 295mph) ach provides nd dips with tight eat, heiping to en the best and re it with year. This year

> miles n 40.646s, (32mph ika could be

rouit with uli curves so ver and to

# No 3348: Pay In The End by Owzat

STARTING from the top row, 10 words (51 squares) positionally represent an expedition. There's little problem initially (three items, unclued), something admittedly revolutionary (one item, to be shaded), varyingly unstable but not unworkable transport (three items to be shaded) and the final row is completely unchecked (three items, unclued). Two unclued lights are not normal words. Letters not cross-checked in unclued lights make PET MAP. Finally, two five-letter answers (one a down word, followed by another across) should separately be arranged into the actual destination and placed below the grid. Chambers 1993 is recommended but does not have one place-name and one proprietary name.

**ACROSS** 

11 Discs about would mostly spimulate like stink (7) Baked crab? (5) 15 To the whole of Canadian province, a letter of pro-

16 A yard behind, Fuzzy was on a roll (5) Bankrupt not without a bob once (4)

19 Chef's thickening (4)

20 Boycott, perhaps is king in local area (4) Divers try to introduce uncertainty like splits (5)

22 Triple crown for England in sport (4) 23 It's put last in designating language? (7) 25 Seedy club also about right (5)

"Sole" without its final letter is a coin! (5) Sped out of bounds — then hole in one (3) 27 Spirit is strong in game (5)

30 Pants! (5) Clean bowled guy hanging around (7) Regularly very dense cyclones have them (4)

More must pedal (5) Doris's tongue is cutting in informal conversation (4)

40 Large fish in shed is mottled (4) 41 Ham backing off satellite (4)

43 Young person is involved with Tory party briefly (5)

46 Africans once near entrance to Joburg in

words) Strip cartoon has cat blown away (4)

Score twice with nothing for Romania — could be this (5)

Escape clutching at sword (5)
Present line accepted practice (6)

Chooses to turn up in job, not a word in advance

10 City of Japanese drink? (one's for another!) (5)

Body tires badly, no good with skipping ropes (12) 13 Drop dead almost after turn (6)

Sun?) (11.2 words) Kill in New York for lolly (3)
Ace boyfriend admits number attached (6) Obstacles could have caused sore arm (7)

34 Will love flercely (6) 36 Unknown Australian twice caught by a West In-

38 Order seat on Northern Line (5)

### Solution to No 3345: Double Fault DOWN ACROSS

i lane - land 4 molar = polar 2 prin/ce 10 woods - words 3 th/ong 11 h/ound 4 adapt = adept 12 wall - will 5 morel/s 13 pa/led 6 parts = pavis 14 pail = pain

7 0/man 15 m/ars 17 food = foot 8 r/ed 9 hand - hind 21 bread - breed 16 bikes - likes 22 h/ar 18 ther/e 26 b/rine 27 tender - render 19 wig-rig

28 natty = nasty 20 sprat = spray 23 s/lowing 31 g/et 32 ne/ts 24 li/on 33 lo/ts 25 1/ie 34 t/elling 29 lega/1

35 p/a 30 tal/e The winner is Sheila M. Mann. of Edinburgh. The runners up are J. V. Boys, of Broadstone, Dorset; and P. W. Howorth, of Newcastle upon Tyne.

FCEFROSTBITE ROMANSCHADAR XECUTRYNEIF EASILYARGALI BALLGAMEELRN I E E K L O R I O T RSACMIASP SIPROADSTER DEPICTNETTLE TONARACE TOALSAITHR

44 Lure learner into theory of everything (4) 45 She sculpted precious metal for 21 pounds (5)

# DOWN

1 They manage compliance, not running pricey

2 Labour Editor following one to the right (7, 2

Land-holding recurring oddly without record (6)

Bent shoot restricts winter brier (6)

Such is power abused (caught by outcries on

Can you discover Indonesian in question? Without question! (6) 32 One's knocked up with mix of lemon, turning out round? (6)

dian evergreen (5) Dickie runs into many different types (5)

# 42 King out of harmony once in uprising (4)

### 18 19 20 22 21 24 25 26 30 35 36 39 40 43 44 46 45

**LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3348** 

In association

48



Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3348, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, March 21.

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DOWN

2 Precursor (9)

tache (b)

Site, position (5)

7 One from Tripoli (6)

Confusion: unwanted items

Decisive juncture (6.2.5)

Indian honorific: - Lanka

Sailor friend of Olive Oyl (6)

12 Soft (service) hat; stone me!

14 To clean (car engine) (6)

8 Communist philosophy (7) 9 Brittle, sharp (5)

11 Posy (7) 13 Explosive used in Plot (9)

iceberg) (5)

22 Dishevelled (7) 23 Secrecy (7) 24 Bash away at keyboard (4)

ACROSS: 5 Eiffel 7 Hoodoo 9 Handball II Clan 12 Toner SOLUTION TO NO 724 13 Decant 15 Uganda 17 Vaunt 19 Dame 20 Milliner 22 Casket DOWN: I Red-hot 2 Plea 3 Shelve 4 Boon 6 Fun and games 8 Delinquency 10 Byron 14 Civil 16 Demote 18 Tyrant 19 Dock

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No 725

**ACROSS** 1 Richard I successor (4) 3 Feeble, soft person (7)

10 Non-ordained church members (5)

17 Up to date; alongside (7)

19 Give birth (to animal, small

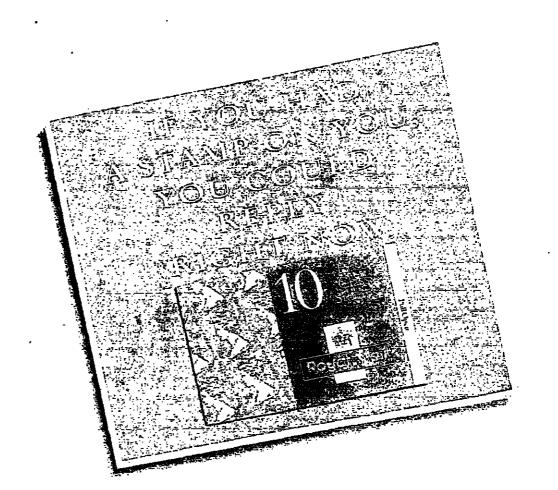
20 Come to fruition (5)

15 Sea-mammal; type of mous-16 Spirit; quality of character 18 Make void (5)

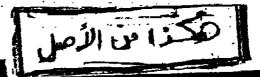
21 Edgar Allen - (3)

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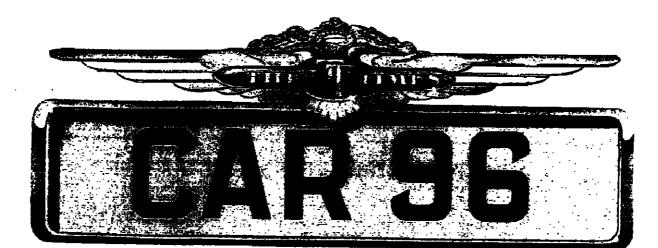








Daredevil whose car goes up in a puff of smoke Page 7



Cars that forever blow little bubbles



Page 10

II 16 circuits

pionship

winners

ADA

te car is proven аг. ала лож пез ver just waiting to dom in Jean Alesi, ker style allied to the rger could be the chage of the season. in I come out of 1996

work not permitted

iore than 500mm he car centre line

paging the cluich ar stops

le longth exhausis ger permitted

**SATURDAY MARCH 9 1996** 

# Vaughan Freeman finds the Formula One fans gearing up for the new season

# Grand passions in the living room

he eyes are as steely as Michael Schumacher's in the seconds before he blasts off the grid and into the danger of the first high-speed bend in the grand prix at Melbourne tomorrow.

But these eyes beneath the neat, white helmet belong to Lorie Marsden ... and she is in her living room in Hamp-shire. Lorie is one of the 300 million whose eyes will be glued to the first grand prix of the season, one of the fans of the most esoteric form of sport on the planet, a world of machinery of such power and cost that it is remote from all

But fans like Lorie can dream. When she feels the grand prix urge, she dons her crash helmet and racing firesuit and heads for the garage. There she climbs into her pride and joy, an old and immobile Formula Ford 1600 once raced by Ferrari driver Eddie Irvine.

Lorie, who runs the Formula One Club, says: "I stick on my helmet and racing suit and sit in the car making all the right noises and moving the gear stick. You've got to do it, havenፕ you?"

Not all Fl fans are as dedicated as Lorie, who is waiting only for the lottery win that will enable her to get Eddie's old car up and running. But then not everyone can claim to have raced an unknown Brazilian then known as Avrton da Silva. better known in later life as Avrton Senna.

er home is named Hawthorns after Britain's first Fl world champion, Mike Hawthorn, and the front room is painted in Brit-(Green to match the BRG leather suite. Pride of place, apart from the cabinet of racing memorabilia, goes to a wrought iron and brass petrol pump. The walls are hung with black and white photographs of heros such as Graham Hill and Jim Clark.

Her partner, Tom, is also a race enthusiast and volunteer marshall at events. Lorie, an air traffic control assistant at West Drayton, is one of the small band of enthusiasts who run the driver and team support clubs in which fans of Fl can get together.

The Formula One Club has 400 members, and as honorary Vice-Presidents has drivers David Coulthard, Eddie irvine, Jan Magnusson, and Mark Blundell. Regular visits are arranged to FI headquarters, to testing days at Silverstone and outings to Fl meccas such as Monza, Imola, and the Ferrari factory at Maranello. Membership costs £17.50 a year.

Lorie says: "My father used to take me to Goodwood. We lived the other side of the hill and could hear when an event was on. We went in his Jaguar Mark II and he would sit me on the bonnet and we would watch from over the fence.

"As soon as I passed my test, I went to Brands Hatch for racing lessons and got my licence. I have a photograph from 1980-81 with me on the Formula Ford 1600 starting grid at Brands with Ayrton Senna -- da Silva as he was then — ahead of me on the grid. Needless to say, I didn't get very close to him." Domestic considerations,

like buying a house, ended Lorie's racing career, but her passion for the sport lives on: My father now writes wonderful articles for our newsletter on racing from the 1950s. My mother doesn't understand. She thinks I should be busy having children, even grandchildren, and my sisters don't understand it either.

"Grand prix fans aren't like football supporters who can go to a match and meet the same people in the same part of the ground. Our club means people can make contact and go together to races or meet up once they are there."

Annette Jones. 27, who runs Club Gerhard Berger, also caught the grand prix bug from her father: "I always watched the races with my Dad, watching people like Mario Andretti." A friend introduced her to the Benetton team, which gave her access to the glamour and excitement of the pit lanes, and the addiction to Formula One was confirmed. But why Berger? An-

nette, an accounts clerk, explains: "He stood out after his accident at Imola in 1989. I noticed him after that and thought how brave, or stupid. he was to carry on, and I have followed his career ever since. "It isn't like a Take That fan club. As a person he is fun, he comes across as shy when he is

in a group, but in fact is very

jovial and very pleasant."

ther drivers, it seems, do little for her: "I don't like Damon Hill, and while I admire Schumacher, who as a driver is I think on a level with Ayrton, as a personality he's nowhere near him." Annette tries to get to three grand prix races a year, usually Monaco and Silverstone for sure, and if possible one other. which in the past has included Estoril in Portugal and the Belgian at Spa. As with the Formula One Club, the Club Gerhard Berger (membership £15 a year), is a sociable set-up; members meet regularly for events, as well as to meet their hero at their annual meeting held over a barbeque at

Sara Richards, with three



Lorie at home — the house is named Hawthorns, not after the tree but the driver

grown-up daughters, has just set up the Martin Brundle Supporters' Club. She says: "It's not like a groupie thing or anything. I go back to when Mike Hawthorn was the hero for every schoolgirl, and then it was James Hunt. I've been

interested in Formula One for a long time and always followed the British drivers, and what's wrong with that? The whole thing is escapism, and not real life. It gets you away

from the humdrum." The FI fascination is global.

to go very much for certain drivers, either for or against. In the 1980s, for example, everyone was pro or anti Mansell, or pro or anti Senna. Today they are pro and anti Hill, or pro and anti Schumacher, and whether or not the fans are German or British seems to have little to do with it." Whatever their feelings, the

David Hayhoe runs the

Grand Prix Contact Club,

which has 400 members in 35

countries who make regular

contact via the club's newslet-

ter and membership list, all

part of the £7 annual fee.

Members are keen sellers and

certainty is the astonishing magnetism of Formula One racing. Whether it is in the back streets of Rio or the leafy drives of Hampshire, you can bet that the lights will be going on in the early hours of tomorrow morning as the addicts get ready to switch on and settle down for a fix of their favourite drug: the sight and sound of a grand prix.

swappers of books, auto-

graphs, stickers and models,

indeed anything that has the

remotest link with Formula

One. "Fans tend to be a very

It is these allegiances, he

partisan crowd," David says.

adds, that are reflected in their

clubs of choice. "The fans tend

The Formula One Club, 10 Fairway Close, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7XD. 01428 722765. Club Gerhard Berger. 3 Bluebell

PAGE 2 Jonathan Palmer's grand prix guide

This season's cars and their drivers

PAGE 5 Win £10,000 in our FI contest



Close, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7NY, 01938 555149. Martin Brundle Supporters' Club, on-Thames, Reading, RG8 9BJ. 01491 872296. Grand Prix Contact Club, 26 Broom Road, Shirley, Croydon CRO 8NE. 0181-777 4835.

696 miles n 51 095s, 3.42mph) ica is one of the vners, so power for at track where r carved has way

ork not permitted n 300 and I above the ce plans

# You'll enjoy driving a Mercedes. The last owner did. Mercedes Benz Used Cars



ri miles 3.575s, .24 mph) th 200mph ricanes. Teams ce downlorce to watch the set-up t comers which

39 miles 1 1m 22.446s, 295mph) nich provides no dips with tight

miles n 40.646s. I32mph)

ika could be /Cuit with ಇತ್ಯ ಹೂದ ಕ್ರಾ

2nd CORNER

TURNS OF SPEED - GEAR CHANGES ON A FLYING LAP OF MELBOURNE

10th CORNER

1st CORNER

BBC commentator and ex-Formula One driver Jonathan Palmer opens his guide to the 1996 grands prix.

BIN CORNER

4th CORNER

# Pick of the crop from a vintage season

n six years of commentat-ing for the BBC, never has it been so difficult to predict the pattern of competitiveness of drivers and teams of a Formula One season. The excitement from both those on the inside and the enthusiast is tremendous. with the competition reckoned to be closer than ever.

That has nothing to do with the changes to the cars, for these are minimal. Engine size remains at 3-litres, weight is similar and minor restrictions on extra wings will not prevent the new cars from being even faster than last year's.

The intrigue comes from the many changes of drivers between teams. The performance of each team's cars can be expected to be broadly the same as last year, in terms of being front running, mid-grid or at the back. However, the drivers make a modest but vital difference to the exact qualifying or race position of a given car.

The fascination is intense because, until the first grand prix of the season, no pattern exists of driver and team results. During winter testing. teams are checking their new cars for reliability and trying to understand how to fine tune the suspension and aerodynamics to optimise the basic design. In the process, some are more concerned than others at setting fast lap times for press excitement and sponsor

u the first rac they be truly compared. The grid positions for tomorrow's Australian Grand Prix should have been determined in the 60-minute qualifying session that finished at 3am today. After months of posturing and conjecture, we have the facts.

Once again, I expect Williams to be the team to beat, continuing years of domination from superb, stable engincering and a great Renault engine. Damon Hill continues for his fourth season, frustrated that, despite having a faster car last year, he was beaten to the title by Schumacher. He starts favourite for the championship. He is quick, determined, experienced and prob-

ably in the best car again. While Schumacher in a Benetton was Hill's problem last season, this year it could be his new team-mate, Jacques Villeneuve. The 24-year-old Canadian has made it clear he intends to beat Hill. With a pedigree that includes being the son of the late Ferrari driver, Gilles, and current Indy car champion (America's



answer to Formula One), he should be taken seriously.

Another team pairing in the spotlight is at McLaren Mercedes, where Mika Hakkinen continues for a third season, joined by Hill's ex-team mate David Coulthard. The importance of dominating a teammate cannot be overestimated, and following Hakkinen's appalling accident at Adelaide just four months ago. I might have expected the Scot to have been established as McLaren's dominant driver over the winter. However, everyone is hugely relieved that Mika's serious head injuries have recovered to the extent that he appears to be as stunningly

cher is apparently not a happy dinary for someone earning a reputed £16 million this year. But the problem is his new Ferrari, which was very late being completed and unreliable even when it did run. Ferrari perennially claim their forthcoming season's target is just to win a couple of races and then the championship the following year, surely a defence strategy with which to deflect potential press

driven the new car, and will have to work hard to maintain his cool when all around him are focusing on his team-mate. Schumacher will surely continue to be FI's best driver, but it will be interesting to see how he copes with the lack of reliability, and, to a lesser extent, pace, I anticipate. Ability shines when confidence and morale are high, and I suspect the German will have to



3rd CORNER

ichael Schuma-

Eddie Irvine has hardly

at Ferrari he too has only won

handle the sight of someone else doing well this year. That someone could be Jean Alesi, now in Schumacher's old seat at Benetton, along with his old Ferrari partner Gerhard Berger, Both will find new motivation from Benetton's likely reliability after years of resignation to Ferrari's record of retiring from most races. My money though goes on Alesi, who never gives up, though he has been criticised for only having won a single race after seven years of trying. In truth, he has never had a car with speed and reliability to do so, and while Berger has won nine

races, over the past three years

Beyond the traditional top four teams. Jordan looks the most promising. Martin Brundle's experience and Barrichello's smooth style should make a good pairing to get the best out of the Peugeot engined chassis. Last year their sparring partners were McLaren: both teams now think they have moved on and up towards the Williams Benetton league. I rate Heinz Harald Frentzen second only to Schumacher, and he has stayed loyal to Sauber alongside Johnny Herbert. They should be right up there with Jordan, though early indications are it will take a while for the new Ford VIO engine to be truly competitive.

So how will new cars and the new driver pack fare on a track they've never seen before? The 3.27-mile Melbourne circuit has been constructed in the previously rundown Alexciting. Unlike most street circuits, it includes some fast corners, which in Fl driver speak means around 140mph. As with all teams, Tyrrell Yamaha have a computer simulation to help them prepare the car for the new track vital to predict gear ratios and wing settings.

The main start-finish

ust a two second jab of driver simply flicks his left hand flipper on the steering wheel three times for third gear. Accelerating through the right, into fourth and flat on the throttle to exit Turn 2 at 100mph. Fifth gear, sixth and

straight is only 800 metres long, but with around 700 brake horse power, that's still sufficient to reach the circuit's top speed of 180mph in sixth gear, the VIO engines howling at up to 17,000rpm.

the brakes will be enough to haul the car down to 70mph as the 175mph again.
The corners should be really

faster through a sequence as with Turns 3, 4, 5, taken in second, third and fourth gears respectively. Another beautiful series follows — but faster: taking Turn 8 at 170mph pulling 25G of cornering force will really sort the men from the boys.

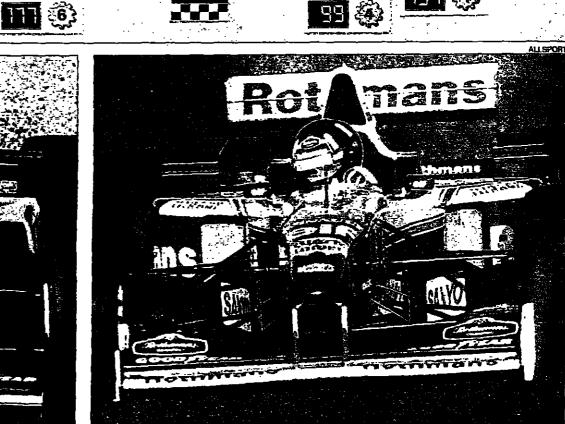
nice to drive, often getting

The relatively gentle Turn 10 will be easily flat out at 175mph-plus, but even then the cornering force will be double that of a road car on the limit. But the most G - nearly 3 - is predicted for Turn 12. taken in fifth gear at about 140mph, before a couple of physically easier medium speed right handers before

Melbourne's slowest corner, Turn 15, down to 55mph in second gear. Up to third, turn right, fourth, flat on the accelerator, and through the last corner at 100mph. It has the makings of a truly great circuit. Fast, demanding and 14th CORNER

very hard work.

Overtaking is never easy. but likely spots are into Turn I and Turn 3. A surely vintage grand prix season could not have a hetter start. Look to Williams to win, with the safe money on Hill. But if Villeneuve wins his first grand prix he will match a feat only achieved once before, when Giancarlo Baghetti won the French GP for Ferrari in 1961.



15th CORNER

How the drivers will see the circuit tomorrow. A computer simulation by the Tyrrell

team plots the speeds and gear changes that will confront the field on the new Melbourne track. Within half a mile of the start, the cars are touching 180mph in sixth gear before braking hard for the third gear Turn One . Then the race is on around what

promises to be one of the power circuits in this year's world championships

Two men in the fastest lane: last year's champion, Michael Schumacher, left. in his Ferrari, and Damon Hill, favourite to scoop the title in 1996, at the wheel of his Williams Renault

# In the small hours, we are with Murray Walker half a world away; tread softly, for you tread on our dreams

# Wheels that spin our fantasies

oday the front page of Car 96 talks to people besotted with motor racing. But this is not the odd thing about them. The odd thing is that, unlike people who perm the hair of their dogs, they are by no means a weird

3

nunority.
Otherwise ordinary people, such as me, think nothing of getting up in the middle of the night to watch what a friend calls "200mph cigarette packets" career round a track on the other side of the globe. These circulating, hi-tech machines have as their permanent accompaniment a screaming, raucous engine which assaults the eardrums and irritates saner people beyond measure. It is called Murray Walker.

Many of the races turn into a procession after the first few frantic laps, yet the largest worldwide television audience for any regular event will be glued to the satellite feed from Melbourne. Why?

Formula One is a strange world which has invented for itself a spurious tradition. For example, Frank Williams has had a team for





Peter Barnard

only a couple of decades yet his headquarters at Didcot boasts a museum of FI cars.

This tradition is not as odd as it sounds, for the roots of FI and its popularity lie in ancient times, in a combination of myth, legend and reality. They grow, these roots, from the age of the single combat warrior. Older civilisations, being less enlightened than us, did not drop bombs on civilian populations in times of conflict. Instead, they chose



their finest exponents of the fighting art and sent them forth: hence that

Biblical mismatch. David v Goliath. Nowadays, most war is trade war except for internecine strife, and Britain v Germany has become a fight to attract a Toyota factory. That is better than bombing Dresden or Plymouth, but it is not very sexy. Walker commentating on the Gatt round? Oh my GOOD-ness, here come the GER-mans, offering TAX breaks for machine TOOL makers

and they've WON, no they haven't. the BRITS have stunned the GERmans with a SEN-sational extra FIFTY tonnes on haddock quotas.

No, I don't think so, either. But Britain v Germany seen as Hill versus Schumacher is a very different matter. Formula One can therefore be seen as the most international of sports which is nonetheless crucially nationalistic. And it is the men, not the teams, for whom we wave the flags. I would bet that there is not a single sporting occasion where the red white and blue is so much in evidence as at Silverstone for the grand prix.

Let's face it: we Brits do not much like foreigners. Schumacher v Hill is the epitome of the nationalist tendency in our enjoyment of sporting contests. The blond arrogant German against the dark, dull, chiseljawed Brit. Hints of nasty. Germanic practices in the bends.

Formula One is also the ultimate

in vicarious pleasure: these men live out our dreams. They drive better than we can ever hope to drive, but that does not prevent us doing racing changes as we leave Silverstone.

Where Schumacher-Hill confront 90mph chicanes, we confront traffic calming systems. Where Schuma-cher-Hill glance up from the track to see a board telling them where they are in the race, we sit on motorways furning at boards which announce:

Delays possible for seven years."

Schumacher-Hill are what we would be, if only. If only there were no laws, no police, no traffic wardens, no other traffic on the road. The McLaren FI supercar is cleverly named: it brings our dream tantalisingly close. If only we didn't have kids, dogs, school runs, ageing aunts, mortgages, the McLaren Fl is what we would be in. As it is, has anyone seen the keys to the Volvo

GRAND PRIX NEWS IN BRIEF

# Sale vroom

SOME OF the most beautiful and exotic cars in Melbourne will be at a Christie's sale, which includes a rare 1929 Bentley Speed Six Gurney Nutting coupé that could fetch £400,000. Two private collections go under the hammer and there are more exotic Bentleys and Rolls-Royces than you could shake a chequered flag at. In the sale are a 1912 London to Edinburgh Rolls, expected to make up to £300,000, and a 1930 Le Mansstyle, 612-litre Bentley open tourer at about £250,000.

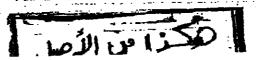
Accelerating profits

AS MICHAEL Schumacher rifles through his pile of dollar bills this weekend, contemplating his £12.5 million contract with Ferrari, think of the poor drivers of the past before television and magazinesseship. According to Automore Isobia Shayari Was mega-sponsorship. According to Autocar, Jackie Stewart was paid El.2 million for the 1973 season. Alain Prost E2.5 million in 1986 but Stirling Moss, that great but never-crowned world champion driver, only £31,000 in 1961.

Brits in pole position
FOR DINNER table bores: which nation provides the best Formula One drivers? Britain, of course. In spite of Schumacher's domination of the past two years and Senna and Prost, Britons have won II world championships, compared with eight for Brazil and five for Argentina ... well, Juan Manuel Fangio actually, who won them all.

# Use my car, old chap

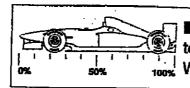
IMAGINE this happening tomorrow: a leading driver stops and gives his car to his team-mate, who has broken down, to go on and win. Fanciful? Englishman Peter Collins did that at Monta in 1956 when he had a commanding position in the champion-ship after two wins. Fangio's Ferrari broke down, so Collins willingly handed over his own, effectively ending his own chances of becoming Britain's first world champion.



... and Car 96 looks at the circuits, plus the teams that will line up on the grid in the 16-race championship

# Of men, machines and the tracks ahead

FORM GUIDE: These are the runners and riders, but which drivers and cars will taste success in 1996, and which will have to go back to the drawing board?



■ KEY: Cars coloured according to victory chances: example Williams 100%, McLaren 50%

■ THE CIRCUITS: Facts and figures for all 16 circuits where battle takes place listed here. Match the drivers, the cars and the tracks to find winners

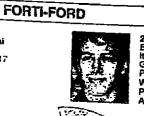
LIGIER-MUGEN HONDA

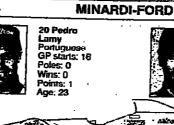


1.82.20 · Chassis For FG01-95

Engine, Ford V8

Designer, Giorgio Stirano





In racing for a decade and

without so much as thank you to making up the numbers. Minardi

Race wins: 0

Engine: Hart V8

First GP: 1978

Constructor's titles: 0

Chassis: Footwork FA17 Designer: Alan Jenkins

GP starts: 15

FOOTWORK-HART

17 Ricardo Rosset Brazilian GP starts: 0 Former Schumecher Benefich

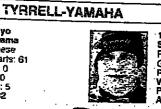
Chassis, Ligier JS43 Designer: Frank Demie should boost fortunes. Team still to win since entering F1 Engine: Mugden-Honda V10 Constructor's titles: 0

Tom Walkinshaw car could be good but the drivers? Panis never more than promising; teammate Pedro Drinz so far behind last year he could still



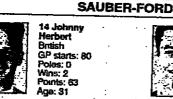
First GP. 1970

18 Ukyo Katayama Japanese GP starts: 61



Montermini and Badoer will get used to the sight of tallpipes disappearing into the distance. Successful Formula 3000 and F3 team that

**FERRARI** 



Chassis: Minardi M196

Designer: Aldos Costa

Engine: Ford ED VR

Constructor's titles: 0

First GP: 1985





3.00

JORDAN-PEUGEOT

Brundle's experience and extra year of work on unreliable Peugeol V10 could turn odium places for Jordan to reak into the big league from

1978 though and even talented Verstappen will find



Diniz Brazilian

Race wins: 104

Engine: Mercedes V10

Constructor's titles: 7

Chassis: McLaren MP4/11 Designer, Neil Oatley

McLAREN-MERCEDES

"If is the big word for McLaren If the car is competitive, if Couthard really is that good, if Hakkinen is fully recovered, the McLaren could be back with a vengeance to test Hill and return to winning ways



Great name but days of Jackie Stewart and world titles long gone. Seriously quick Mika Salo deserves chance to shine. Car reliability a bugbear, although Yamaha V10 could signal return to glory days. Let's hope so.

Chassis: Sauber C15 Designer: Leo Ress Engine: Ford V10 Constructor's titles: 0 First GP: 1993

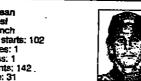
Frentzen potentially great and Herbert's pedigree without drivers? Cosworth V10 power in

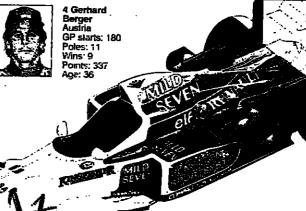


Designer: Gary Anderson

Engine: Peugeot V10

Race wins: 0





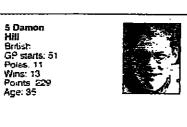
BENETTON-RENAULT

Chassis: Benetton B195 Designer, Ross Brawn Race wins: 26 Engine: Renault V10 Constructor's titles: 9 First GP: 1981 /as Toleman)

Mover forget Benefton; Williams dan t. Schumacher might have aerodynamic changes for the aerosynamic changes for the start of the year, and now has the one driver just waiting to lead to stardom in Jean Alasi. His frecrecker style effect to the guidance of experienced Gerhard Berger could be the surprise package of the season, if Alasi doesn't come out of 1996 covered in plant, it won't be for

Bodywork not permitted arry more than 500nm from the car centre line





WILLIAMS-RENAULT

Chassis: Williams FW18 Head/Adrian Newsy Race wins: 83 Engine: Renault V10 Constructor's titles: 7 First GP: 1973

SAN MARINO

.Chassis: Ferrari F310.

Engine: Ferrari V10

Designer: John Barnard

Now or never for Damon but critics torget his will to win and his exemplary record so far: 13 wins in 51 starts; that's Schumatter, whilams son likely to field the best car, and Hill's new partner. Villeneuve, should be on pace. If Hill can stay on the track and not be untimidated, the world. intimidated, the world championship beckons and Williams should get home as top constructor yet again.

THE GRAND PRIX CALENDAR AND CIRCUITS

No more excuses. The best driver in the championship is demanding a reliable car to stand a chance of getting near transmiss and Senetton.

encouraging with the new V10 showing a distinctly Latin temperament hot, liery but liable to blow up. In Schuey's

hands, anything is possible, Ferrari, and British designer John Barnard, will be hoping it is, to give the team its first world

Testing has not been very

champion for 17 years.

# QUALIFYING free practice on Friday (Thursday in Monaco) Letween 11.00-12 00 and 13.00-14.00 and 1% hours 9.00-9 45 and 10.16-11.00. 9.009 45 and 10.15-11.00. Maximum of 30 laps on each day Official qualifying will be 1 hour on Saturday between 13.00-14.00, maximum of qualitying means drivers must not be more than 7% slower than pole position tap time. A spare car may be used in qualifying, but not in free practice. A 30 will be held 412 hours before the race. Drivers may use up to 28 sets of hay asset up to 26 sets of tyres for the whote event. No limit on amount of tuel used, refuefling is allowed. Engine capacity is 3-litres, normally aspirated.

The cockpit sides have to be no more than 220mm below the line between the two roll stuctures. The driver's eyes must be above the cockpit sides. 1995 chassis do not have There is a minimum height of 940mm for the second 1996 டா( இ Fuel breathers must close automatically if the car is 1995 edges of the front wing end plates must be at least 10mm thick and

THE NEW RULES FOR 1996

with a means of Variable length exhausts no longer permitted No composite cylinder heads or blocks, only steel to be used for carnshalts and

# **AUSTRALIA** Melopume, March 10

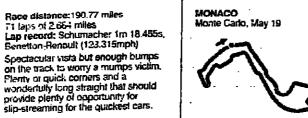
BRAZIL

ARGENTINA

Buents Aires, April 7

Intertages, March 31

Race distance: 189.89 miles 58 taps of 3.274 miles Lap record: to be established Drivers will think twice around this circuit because it is first time for everyone. Melbourne has constructed a circuit especially to wrest the Australian from Adelaide and it promises to be tast and lurious.





Benetton-Renault (91.821mph) They don't come any more romantic, but put Schumacher at the front here and it will need a lonne of dynamite to shift him from the lead. Overtaking at a premium. Glossy but too often a Race distance: 190.905 miles 65 laps of 2.937 miles

Race distance: 191.621 miles 63 laps of 3.132 miles

Lap record: Berger 1m 29.568s, Ferran (122.25mph)

After death of Senna in 1994, now a safe but slow circuit with only the Piratella comer a high-speed 165mph.

Should prove tough on brakes and drivers who will need to look for every



BRITAIN

Silverstone, July 11

Hockenheim, July 28

FRANCE Magny-Cours, June 30

Race distance: 191 66 miles 61 laps of 3.142 miles Williams-Renault (129.875mph) Quick circuit being made quicker with some changes this year. Bags of tans and bags of excitement because circuit needs precise handling. Should be Hill's day if he can stay away from

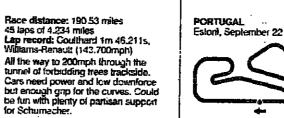
Race distance: 184,608 miles 72 laps of 2,654 miles

Lap record: Mansell 1m 17 070s, Williams-Renault (123.355mph)

Power circuit, flat with mix of high and

Should suit Williams team but pit stops cost the team dearty last year.

rower dictal, like tip: max or night and low speed bends. Drivers don't like it because it demands precise set-up.





BELGIUM

Monza, September 8

straights and tricky chicanes. Teams will be trying to secrifice downforce to gain speed but must watch the set-up through the kerbs and corners which tricked the field last year. Race distance: 192.339 miles 71 laps of 2.709 miles Lap record: Coulthard 1m 22.446s, Williams-Renault (118.295mph) Favourile test track which provides

Race distance: 191,696 miles 44 taps of 4,334 miles

Lap record: Prost 1m 51 095s, Williams-Renault (140 42mph)

Race distance: 191.01 miles 53 laps of 3.604 miles

Williams-Renault (155,24 moh)

Ferrari's home turf with 200mph

Fast and often wet. Spa is one of the

best. High-speed straights and heavy braking into lough corners, so power and durability called for at track where Schumacher last year carved his way from 16th to her.



Race distance: 169 074 miles 67 laps of 2 822 miles Lap rercord: Schumache: 1m 21.186. Sanettor-Renault (125.540mph) Short straights make over-taking tricky and could turn this race into a procession longer than the Coronation, First to the first corner will around the 2.8-mile circuit.

Race distance: 190.08 miles

Benetton-Ranault (105 24mph)

Liore curves than Liz Hurley, which

72 laps of 2.64 nules Lap record: Schumacher 1m 30.522s,

thore curves than Liz Huney, which could make it a Renault circuit where acceleration and handling count. Name and bumpy atthough a features the long and test Ascari curve that drivers take list out at 160mph.

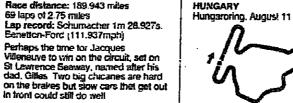
Rece distance: 161.304 miles 78 laps of 2.068 miles Lap record: Schumacher 1m 21.076s.

Barcelone, June 2

CANADA

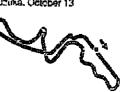
Montreal, June 15

Lap record: Hill 1m 24,531s, Wuliams-Renault (125,089mph) Decent top-speed straight and high-speed comers should make for evertaking and a Williams circuit. Schumacher won last year though and will want his Ferrari to take full advantage of the wide-open spaces.



Race distance: 189,805 miles 77 laps of 2,465 miles Lap record: Mansell 1m 18,308s. (الرورة Wilkams-Renault (113.349) Worse than the M25 on a Monday morning. Qualifying important because tight, twisty track gives little opportunity to overtake. Pose position car should dictate race day if it can stay reliable

great racing. Bumps and dips with tight great rating, burnes are the print to nums so speeds not great, helping to narrow the gaps between the best and not-so-bad. Williams like it with Coulthard winning last year. This year?



Race distance: 192.92 miles 53 laps of 3.64 miles Lap record: Mansell 1m 40.646s, Williams-Renault (130.332mph) Last but not least, Suzuka could be decision-maker for the champlenship. Long circuit with quick straights and uphill curves so cars need plenty of power and to head tyre west to a minimum.

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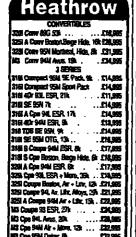
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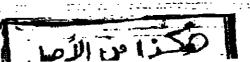
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### THE SCORING SYSTEM

I) Qualifying points: scored by drivers qualifying for the start of each grand prix within the first 20 positions on the grid: Pole position 20 points; 2nd 19; 3rd 18; 4th 17; 5th 16; 6th 15; 7th 14: 8th 13: 9th 12: 10th 11; 11th 10: 12th 9; 13th 8; 14th 7; 15th 6; 16th 5; 17th 4; 18th 3; 19th 2; 20th 1.

2) Finishing points: (as for qualifying points) scored by drivers for the top 20 positions at the end of every grand prix: 1st position 20 points; and in descending order to one point for 20th position.

3) Lap points: one point is scored for each lap completed in a grand prix.

4) Improved position points: three points are scored for each place improved from starting grid to finishing position in each race.

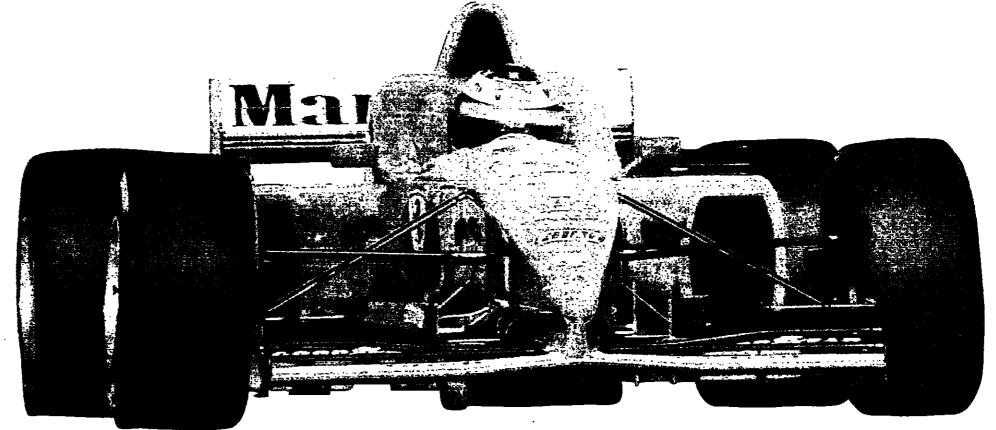
### THE PRIZES

JACKPOT The player with the top Fl Fantasy Drive team after the Japanese Grand Prix on October 13, 1996, wins

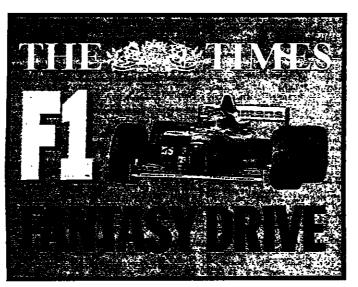
GRAND PRIX WINNERS Prizes will be awarded to players whose FI Fantasy Drive team scores the most points at each grand prix from March 31 to October 13, 1996. Prizes include a pair of VIP tickets to the British grand prix at Silverstone on July 14 for the winners of the Brazilian and Argentinian

# **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1 Race results will be taken as those standing at midnight on the Sunday of each grand prix. 2 The rules of the FIA, as they affect The Times F1 Fantasy Drive, will apply in relation to points. 3 Changes of circumstance: if a driver is replaced, through death or injury, you will be deemed to have chosen the new driver, if a driver transfers to another team you will keep that driver as your selection. In both instances the driver is eligible for transfer should you wish to exercise this option. 4 in the event of one or more entrants having the same score at the end of the competition a tie break will come into effect to decide the £10,000 prize winner. 5 in the event of more than one entrant having the same score for an individual race prize the winner will be selected at random. 6 The computerised record of your entry will be considered to be the entry. 7 Normal Times Newspapers rules apply and the editor's decision is final.



Michael Schumacher of Germany in his new Ferrari F310 during testing in Estoril, Portugal



 See our guide to the drivers and circuits in the 1996 Grands Prix on pages two and three, or see the Australian GP on BBC2 at 9.10am tomorrow and see at first hand how each driver is performing before making your selection.

# MAKE ONE SELECTION FROM EACH OF THESE EIGHT GROUPS

IAKE UN	E SELECT	ION FROM	// EAC
GROUP A	GROUP C	GROUP E	GROU
1 M Schumacher	07 D Coulthard	13 M Salo	19 T Inou
2 J Alesi	08 M Hakkinen	14 P Lamy	20 R Ros
3 D H2	09 HH Frentzen	15 P Diniz	
GROUP B	GROUP D	GROUP F	GRO
4 G Berger	10 M Brundle	16 U Katayama	21 L Bad
5 E Irvine	11 R Barrichello	17 J Verstappen	22 A Mor

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# Win VIP tickets to the British Grand Prix

THE WINNER of our Brazilian Grand Prix game on March 31 will win VIP hospitality for two, as guests of Jonathan Palmer, at the exciting British Grand Prix on Sunday, July 14 at Silverstone. Each place is worth £450 plus VAT.

The winner and his or her partner will meet the former FI driver and BBC commentator in the luxurious surroundings of a new pavilion right beside Hangar Straight, the fastest part of the Silverstone circuit.

Johnny Herbert, last year's British Grand Prix winner. will also be a special guest. The Sauber-Ford driver is renowned for his sense of humour so hearing him being interviewed from a driver's perspective on the race by Jonathan Palmer should be entertaining.

Uniquely. Damon Hill's 1995 Formula 1 Williams will be present for guests to see at close quarters, complete with all the equipment to enable a pit stop to be performed. Following training from an FI mechanic on a designated role to include use of the airwrenches, jacks and refu-

perform your own pit stop in teams, with prizes for the

Even before you arrive at Silverstone, your day is planned to be as pleasurable as possible with a detailed

Race against time: experience the thrill of the pit stop with Grand Prix mechanics elling equipment, you will map of side roads to guide the day and you will be able you away from traffic jams. All day catering includes a

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to watch the race at the trackside or on one of our huge delicious breakfast, superb cinema-style screens inside the hospitality pavilion. four-course lunch, with free wine and traditional after-

Besides Formula One, there noon tea. A complimentary is the exhilarating British bar is available throughout Touring Cars, air displays by And when there is no racing there are parades of great cars and drivers. Centre Transfers are included providing access to the centre of the circuit which is where all teams, cars and

the Red Arrows and the Red

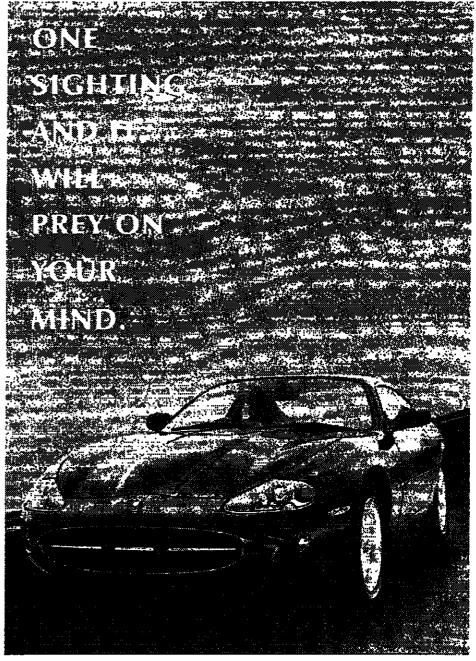
Devils Parachute display.

drivers are based. The hospitality package includes the following:

- General admission and car parking pass VIP pass to the hospitality
- facility · Race preview and review by Jonathan Palmer Personal appearance by
- Johnny Herbert Williams FI pit stop competition
- Private trackside viewing terrace
- Grand Prix guide and audio cassette
- Silverstone programme Four-course lunch and
- afternoon tea Complimentary all-day bar
- The British Grand Prix
- Porsche Supercup race
- Formula Renault race British Touring Car race

If you are not lucky enough to win our competition, you can still buy tickets for this event, by calling the telephone number below.





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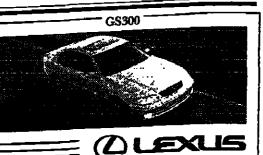
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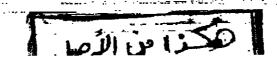
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LONDON

# Against the computer and smoke

ugo Spowers is the scourge of the motor racing fraternity with his oneman campaign against tobacco sponsorship, the sport's financial lifeblood. Not yet in the big time. Spowers has a car competing in support bills at grand prix circuits in For-mula Three, aptly named The Extinguisher, covered in nosmoking signs.

The stuntman-turned-racing driver, who founded the Dangerous Sports Club when he was at Oxford in the 1980s. runs a classic car restoration company. A 1969 Jaguar 420g is the latest example of his work; it cost £90,000 and took a year to complete. He is one of one of the most flamboyant figures on the racing circuit, a throwback to when amateur ivers raced for the thrills even though he is using his car for a crusade against something he believes is wrong.

The Day

How aid you first learn

I was about eight on a rear wheel-steering dumper truck, It was in the garden near Swindlesham. It was not difficult. I mastered it quickly. I was driving a hydraulic digger by the age of 12.

What was your first car?

I made it myself when I was at Oxford. The body was a shell designed for a steam-powered car. I installed a VW Beetle in it, but it was unusual because it had no chassis.

What car do you drive now.

The company runabout, a Citroën, or I have a 1937 Alfa Romeo which is not a very

### STEERING COLUMN'

sporting one. It's a four-door, coach-built limo, but very exotic in its way with wonderfully original leather paint.

Do you like driving?

In Britain I find it irritating because of the traffic and regulations. I am happier driving long distances on the Continent on good roads in a nice car. I prefer older cars because the modern sports car is so limited.

What is your dream car?

One I would make myself, a small, narrow, two-seater sports car from composite materials. Lightweight, nar-row tyres, and I would make my own 1500cc engine.

What is your most hated car?

Those optimised by computers with no originality and epitomised by the wretched Vauxhall Vectra. How can anyone spend £1 billion and end up with that?

What is your worst habit in the car?

Always leaving late for wherever I am going, and taking a cup of tea and telephone with me. The car is littered with empty teacups. Fortunately, they are not the bone china.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

The ubiquitous Sunday drivers, who now seem to be on the roads seven days a week. Their level of concentration is dire. They do not have any



New look: Hugo Spowers and the 1969 Jaguar he has just given a £90,000 renovation

apparent desire to complete Have you ever had points their journey.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in

I lived in a Range Rover,

morning noon and night, for three months with two male companions when we drove back from India across Asia in the high summer. We left Iran the day they burnt a cinema down. The following day they closed the border. We celebrat-ed Christmas 1991 in Poland and decided to go to St Petersburg to celebrate New Year as they brought down the Communist flag. We never made it to St Petersburg. The Alfa Romeo broke down in the wilds of nowhere. We were relayed back and kept warm in our fur coats.

A few. For speeding and, when

on your licence?

I was younger, for breaching car construction regulations. The day before I was banned, I bought the Trandem, which was featured at the beginning of The Goodies, at a Sotheby's auction. I cycled back from Botswana on it - not very comfortable. The bike is still in my shed.

What do you listen to in

Often nothing. It is a good thinking time. Fine old cars with fine engines do not deserve intrusion. I do, however, have a record player in the Alfa Romeo.

If you were Secretary of State

for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

Cancel the road construction budget and divert it into the railways. I would take great delight in calling a halt to any more pedestrian traffic lights and sleeping policemen. 1 would also cut the road traffic police force by half and redeploy them against drug traffickers.

What is your favourite car advertisement?

When I think of car commercials I think of desperately uninspired images of new toothpaste tubes snaking along a road in the highlands. I would create my own advertisement. It would be a car on skis overtaking a downhill skier in Kitzbühel.

Kevin Eason is unimpressed by Saab technology

# Finally, this is just too clever by half

ometimes the reason for the technology defeats me. Just because a boffin thinks up the mechanics of a toaster that can administer a shot of hair gel and bath the baby at the same time does not mean I need to own it.

Carmakers should note that I can drive along happily with my left foot no more inclined to kick down a clutch than put the boot into a deeply unpleasant centre back. Give me an automatic every time: all that waggling gearsticks is distinctly primitive.

Not according to Saab. which has come up with the Sensonic semi-automatic gearbox - a five speed gearbox but with no clutch, essentially an adaptation of Formula One technology which allows Damon Hill to decide when to change gear without exercising his left leg. Saab's system is supposedly so clever that it won the award for technology from Britain's

Gears use the usual H-shift,

but the feel is curiously dead



Saab 900 2.0S turbo: too much of all the wrong things

most authoritative motoring magazine. Why? Hill gains precious hundredths of a second using a semi-automatic, about the same time I need to decide whether to plug Alanis Morrisette into the stereo system or Russ Conway's greatest hits.

Now I am quite fond of Saab's 900, especially in

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**SAAB 900 2.05 TURBO** 

coupé form, with its attractive dashboard, spacious cabin and cavernous boot. But the turbo-charged Sensonic version is too much of all the wrong things too much power through the front wheels and a gearbox with all the novelty and practicality of one of Paul Daniels's magic tricks.

The shift is easy enough: push the gearstick through the usual H-box, just remem-bering to lift off the power with each change. But the feel is curiously dead, with no response at all unless the throttle is given a firm push. Push too hard and you risk the turbo-charger cutting in to send you careering off down the road like a runaway horse. And the system was fantas-

tically irritating in the sort of heavy traffic conditions that I encountered most days, dinging a warning bell if I sat still in first gear for more than a few seconds. Yet Saab's publicity blurb says: "Imagine never having to worry about stalling unexpectedly or slipping the clutch."

OK. I just shut my eyes for a moment . . . and yes, there it is: Sorry Saab, I still bought an

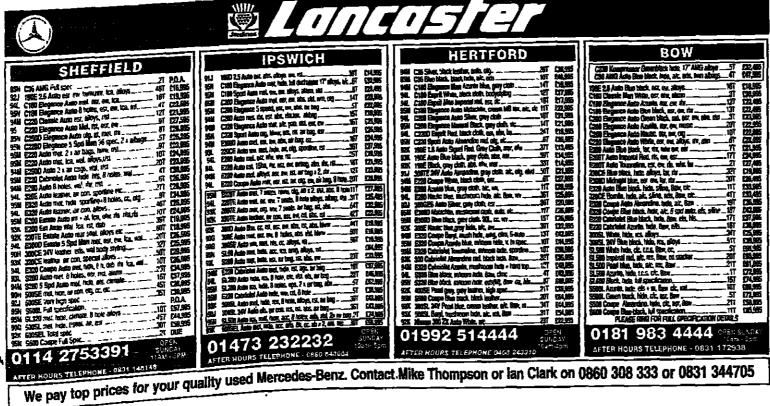
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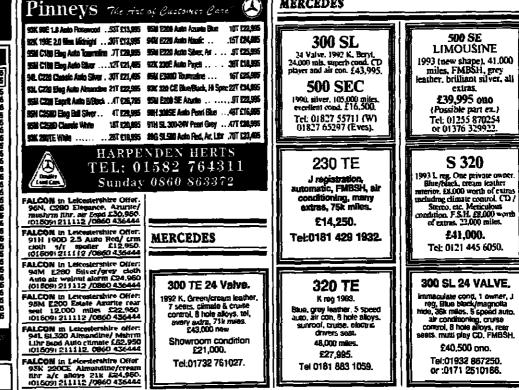
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### AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

 LÓNDON A40 Hillingdon. Waterpipe work being carried out on the Western Avenue Bridge slip

A406 North Circular Road, Upper Edmonton. Major road-works continue over the Lea Viaduct. A406 North Circular Road,

Finchley. Major roadworks continue with various restrictions between the A1 and A1000 junctions. A12 Eastern Avenue, Wan-stead. Construction of the M11 link road continues, with east-bound reduced to a single lane

bound reduced to a single lane between the Redbridge round-about and High Street.

A243 Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Closed north-bound for major roadworks outside Chessington World of Adventures, Diversions cause delays back to junction 9 of the M25 at pack times.

M25 at peak times. A4 Great West Road, Chiswick. Between 9pm and 6am Mon-day-Thursday nights reduced to one lane each way for continuing repair work to the crumbling elevated section of the M4 above.

SOUTH-EAST M4 Berkshire. Major roadworks and contraflow between junctions 6 and 8/9 cause lengthy

tailbacks daily. M25 Surrey. Two sections of widening work, with lane clo-sures and contraflows between junctions 6 and 8 and 9 and 10. M1 Hertfordshire. Resurfacing and widening work on north-bound exit at junction 6. Slip road is sometimes closed overnight, with diversions via junc-tion 5 and the A41.

A247 Surrey, Roadworks on the street between Clandon Station and Clandon Park. Long delays expected during peak times.

peak times.
A509 Buckinghamshire. Major roadworks on the Welling-borough Road in Olney, at junction with Lavendon Road.

A264 Sussex. Delays expected through East Grinstead town centre due to several sets off roadworks on Holtye Road, Portland Land and Moat Road.

A249 Kent Major works at the A249 Kent. Major works at the Stockbury roundabout west of Sittingbourne often cause lengthy hold-ups between the M2 and Kingsferry Bridge.

A36 Hampshire. Bridge repairs
at Wellow, north-west of
Southampton.

SOUTH-WEST

M4/M5 Avon. Work on second Severn crossing continues, with restrictions around the Almondsbury & Aust interchanges, and also on the M5 around junction 18.

A3030 Dorset. Down to one lane 24 hours a day through Allweston, near Sherborne, for A4 Avon. Lane restrictions and temporary lights over the Newbridge Bridge, Bath, due to strengthening work on the

M5 Somerset. Bridge repairs with lane closures both ways between junctions 21 and 22. A381 Devon. Roadworks continue in Teignmouth between uid and inve occasional tem-

porary lights. A30 Corriwall. Roadworks and Bodmin Moor. A377 Devon. Roadworks continue around Eggesford, be-

ween Exeter and Barnstap with temporary traffic lights around the clock. MIDLANDS AND

EAST ANGLIA
M6 West Midlands. Major roadworks continue between junctions 5 and 6 with lane
restrictions in both directions. A6 Leicestershire. Major road-works and contratiow at Lockington, between junction 24 of the M1 and Sawley Island. M69 Leicestershire. Link road from the M69 to M1 northbound closed at junction 21. A short diversion is in operation via the roundabout. M65 Lancashire. Down to one

lane in both directions between junctions 10 and 14 between 9.30am and 4pm on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. A47 Norfolk. Two sets of major roadworks: at Terrington St

lohn, and at Swaffham. A11 Norfolk. Construction of Wymondham bypass con-tinues, with lane and speed restrictions between Hethersett and Attleborough.

M6 Staffordshire. North and

southbound entry sitoroads on to motorway closed at junction 11 while work is carried out on the A460. Diversions are

NORTH M1 West Yorkshire. Roadw and contraflow at end of the motorway at junction 47. M6 Cheshire. Widening work continues between junctions

M6 Greater Manchester. Roadworks and lane closures between junctions 24 and 26. A5063 Greater Manchester. Major roadworks and lane clo-sures on Trafford Road, near A630 South Yorkshire. Major roadworks and contraflow on the Rotherway at Canklow, between junction 33 of the M1

A167M Tyneside, Northbound lane closures on the Newcastle central motorway near Jes-mond Road interchange for bridge repairs.

WALES

M4 Gwent, Widening work continues in connection with second Severn crossing be-tween junctions 22 and 24. A48 West Glamorgan. Construction work with lane closures on all approaches to the roundabout

A483 West Glamorgan, Major roadworks and contraflow on Fabian Way, Swansea betw Elba Crescent and Earlswood lights.

A4229 Mid Glamorgan. Road-works and temporary traffic lights between Cornelly and

A547 Gwynedd. Bridge repairs with temporary traffic lights near A55 junction at Llandudno

SCOTLAND M8 Strathclyde. Westbound exit at junction 27 closed. An alternative route can be taken via junction 26 or junction 29. A749 Strathclyde. Dalmamock Bridge, Glasgow closed south-

M90 Tayside. Major roadworks at junction 10, with lane closures in both directions. NORTHERN IRELAND County Tyrone. Roadworks on Omagh bypass at junction with Derry Road.

MAJOR ROADWORKS 20 23

Vaughan Freeman hears the sorry tale of the rogue Fiat Uno and a couple's three years of frustration and danger



Vincent O'Riley: "My wife was involved in a rush-hour collision following an engine failure, her first accident in nearly 40 years of motoring"

# A goer, but only at going wrong

the speedometer needle was vibrating at lower speeds," he says. "Also, within a few days of taking delivery, a sunroof was fitted and the technician fitting it succeeded in severing the radio aerial. We later found out that the roof leaked

with a car that has given little very badly." Later more problems surpleasure but a lot of problems. faced, including a faulty handbrake and the heater a catalogue of parts failures. engine cut-outs, poor and rough engine running and failing again. The real difficulty though - a recurring problem with the electronic frustrating days, with the Uno in the workshop of his local garage instead of on the road. engine management system -In all that time, the Uno has would prove the most worrygiven only six months of ing and dispiriting. trouble-free motoring, he says.

The fault, tricky to diagnose and even harder to remedy. repeatedly left the car with reduced power, struggling along at barely 20mph and any attempt to use the throttle only resulted in the engine giving up completely. In the worst instances, the fault occured without warning, tially lethal engine cut-out. microchips in the car's elec-

been replaced, the entire ignition unit replaced and a new "Lamdba" sensor. which helps to monitor engine performance, has been installed.

tronic "brain" have

Early on, Eileen, came close to being involved in an accident when the engine died as she approached a roundabout, and the next day I had the same experi-

years in business.

e cannot rely on BMW technician

training courses,

the-moon diagnostic equip-

ment, on corporate policy

guidelines, books and rules.

Instead, he uses his intelli-

on all manner of cars. Howev-

small independent garages is

difficult to do, especially in the

knowledge that Cheyne's has

also been around for well over

20 years, and its reputation appears as white as its invoice

ence when the engine cut as I was overtaking a moped,\* says Vincent, of Finchampstead, near Wokingham, Berkshire. "It was inevitable that an accident should occur,

causing an instant and poten- and sure enough it did. My wife was involved in a collision Over the months, important in the middle of the rush hour following an engine failure,

her first accident in

100 no claims dis-

count. But the final

nearly 40 years of motoring. When I collected the car We chose the Uno from the repair shop, the engine failed again." as brand Eileen was fortunately unharmed, loyalty to but the accident cost the couple Fiat. That their £100 insurance excess and

dented' straw came a few weeks ago when the car's engine cut out as Vincent was driving along the M40.

Fortunately, I had only just joined the motorway and was on the inside lane, or I don't

know what would have hap-

ignominiously brought home by the AA to Cleveland Cars in Ash, Aldershot, where engineers and mechanics, sadly all too familiar with the vehicle and its irritatingly unreliable innards, worked for the best part of a fortnight trying to isolate the problem.

They have performed their exasperating tasks with a high degree of competence." he says, but adds that, while Cleveland Cars have been as diligent and courteous as he could have wished, he believes the odds are stacked against them in their battle to sort out the numerous problems that have plagued the vehicle. Even a visit by a Fiat engineer failed to keep the car running reliably long-term.

Fiat has at least reacted to the O'Rileys' plight by arranging for another engineer to examine their car and loaning Mr O'Riley pays £7,900 for his Fiat Uno 1.4ieS. Radio faulty on delivery and speedo erratic. JUNE 26, 1993:

DIARY OF A

NIGHTMARE

JUNE 23, 1993

Sunroof installed, leaving roof leaking and aerial severed. OCTOBER, 1993: Heater failed and repaired, and first erratic running of engine noticed. Heater talled again and replaced MARCH, 1994; Engine problem recurring, microchip

replaced. THROUGHOUT 1994: Recurring engine problems, complete ignition unit changed. APRIL, 1995: Accident after engine failed in moving traffic. MAY, 1995: Visit by Fiat engineer results in six months' trouble-free motoring.

FEBRUARY, 1996: Engine fails — again — this time on M40.

the couple a courtesy car a minimise inconvenience while theirs is off the road yet again. But the couple's experience demonstrates to carmakers just how quickly faith built up over decades can be destroyed by one bad car. Vincent's early burning passion for the Fiat marque has clearly dimmed.

y first car, in 1954, was a pre-war Fiat Topolino, one of the original 500s. I had that for several years, and then had a Fiat 600. Subsequently, I have had Fiats from time to time over the years, and then we went to the Design Centre exhibition. As a result, we went for a test drive in a new Fiat Cinquecento. That was too small, so instead we went for the Uno as a bit of brand loyalty to Fiat.

That loyalty has rather been dented. As a professional engineer with more than 45 years' experience of electronic and computer systems, I am aware that intermittent faults can be elusive, but also that with the right level of resource and competence they can be put right. There is no doubt in my mind that in its present state, this car is not capable of satisfying the purpose for which it was sold."

When one garage charges £18 an hour more than the one next door, it's decision time. Richard Sutton reports

has been

# Which service? The authorised version?

each can repair a bent BMW. The problem is that one charges £33 an hour, the other £51.60.

here was nothing Ei-

leen O'Riley could do

when the engine died

and her Fiat coasted

into the path of oncoming vehicles. The result was a

crash which has shaken the

faith of her and husband,

Vincent, in the little Fiat Uno

The couple bought the car

because of Vincent's passion

for the marque, kindled by his

first car, the classic tiny Fiat

Topolino. He bought the Uno

after visiting an exhibition

featuring the Fiat at a Design

Now he looks back over nearly three years of frustra-

tion and cost, trying to live

Vincent, a retired engineer.

bought the Uno 1.4ieS from

Marn Garage, Camberley, Surrey, for E7,900. Almost

instantly, he says, the first of

many niggling problems

"On delivery, I discovered

that the radio was faulty and

showed themselves.

Centre display in London.

that was their pride and joy.

Having a car repaired or serviced can be a minefield of disappointments and enormous cost for thousands of motorists. The car is the biggest single annual cost they have after their homes, yet many simply give up all hope when they enter a garage — baffled by jargon, bamboozled by lack of knowledge which often costs them more.

Surely it makes sense to choose the cheaper garage of the two that sit side by-side in Fulham: Cheyne BMW is London's biggest authorised BMW dealer and costlier than the independent garage run by Max Greene. Go to Max, or any other un-

authorised dealer, and your service book will be missing the official stamps that can make the vehicle's service history look questionable, and at worst could invalidate your new car warranty.

Yet independents can be just as effhuge loyalty from customers, relationships explored to accompany a Channel 4

Harry Baggs, 86. whose father started his Cheltenham garage business in 1912, tells of a customer who has been a regular since 1930. Even David Guest, third generation proprietor of Meteor Ford in the Midlands, a company which has been a Ford main agent since the days of the Model T, says that back-street garages fulfil an important role and many have developed specialisms and are well equipped. Had the main deal-

er network never evolved, the

small garages could never

economies of scale.

have taken advantage of its

Service Department front man to deal with any problem. He wo garages next door of one another, the small to each other and garage supporting the used car owner, the main dealer doesn't even have a clean, soft providing parts and technocouch on which he can counsel logical gearing in a business that has evolved into a sophisa disgruntled customer. So it might be argued that, alticated scientific arena.

Manufacturers argue that servicing and repairing by authorised dealers, who have invested millions of pounds in diagnostic computers, ensure work is carried out properly. while the cost of sophisticated equipment to diagnose faults is simply beyond the reach of many small independent ga-rages. Although Max, for ex-ample, has invested in a laptop computer and software, he can't spend £90,000 needed to buy BMW's latest hardware. He sacrifices profit by send-

ing customers' cars next door

to have problems assessed at

garages

and main

dealers

co-exist

each other

Cheyne. "I recently had to pay about £240 to find a small leak in a head gasket," he says. "Then I found The small it wasn't the head gasket — it was coked-up fuel injec-

tor nozzles." These are only available new as part of the injector unit, and each costs £80.26 plus VAT from BMW. BMW because of apparently claims injectors should not be decoked,

only replaced, but in a new book. Motor Mania, Max has them cleaned and decoked using ultra-sound equipment, which costs only £20 plus VAT. Replacing all the injectors on a six-cylinder BMW can be expensive. David Sheldrake. Cheyne's service manager, says clean-ing might only be superficial and any number of internal problems with the injector

could go undetected by Max's method. Max's approach could be a false economy, but at a saving of £361.56 (in the case of a BMW 325i) plus the difference in labour rates, plus VAT, isn't his method worth the calculat-

Max is not a wealthy man. he has no corporation to



Max Greene: no carpets on the floor, but many of his customers have remained loyal to him for years

# POINTS TO REMEMBER

 WHEN buying a used car, assess it in its own right, and if suspicious that the service history may be untrue, phone the dealer(s) detailed and ask them to check their

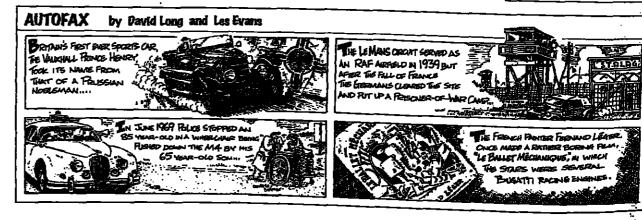
● TAKE a personal interest in how and why work is being carried out. Meet the mechanic make him interested in you and don't be afraid to ask if parts really need to be replaced.

 NEVER tell a garage what is wrong and what needs replacing. If you do, they are perfectly within their rights to carry out your demands, even if your assessment of the faults

is incorrect. ● WHEN using a nonwhich using a non-authorised garage, insist on original equipment or genuine factory replacement parts, especially for use in engines, brakes and on bodywork, and ask to

ee removed parts. ASK authorised dealers if they have an hourly rate discount for older cars. AT AN independent

garage, don't try to bargain over the bill. Official dealers don't, so you should not expect a small garage to carry your costs.



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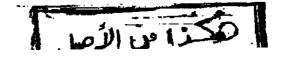
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9S(N) 980 3.0 CD 96(N) 850 2.5 20V 95(N) 880 2.5 20V
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SS(N) 850 2.5 10V8
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E16,495
01865 20006 1(O-m) R.H.D and L.H.D. SUPPLIED SM XARTA LY Turbo Desk, Salection ender 10,090 pc. 11,900 SM COMORN SX TD 11,200 FELSEDT 306 TD SN 1 DOOR 11,190 FELSEDT 405 ESTATES FROM 17,200 SZ FELSEDT 605 SNOT AND 70,000 pts 75H Blog 17,200 SZ FELSEDT 605 SNOT AND 70,000 pts 75H Blog 17,200 stem at 15

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Black restalic, 27,700 miles \$10,485 \$400 Volve 440 1.8 6E Heinhibech. Eright Red, 10,000 miles \_\_ 110,855 \$550 Volve 800 2.8 10v 8 Balcon Acths. Signal red 9800 miles, 214905 941. Volve 800 2.8 10v 9E Estate Auth. Classic Graen, air con, 31800 miles \_\_ 21300 15500 miles \_\_ £19495
SSII Volve 582 £20v GLT \$aloon
Adm. Silver Sand metallic, 10300
miles \_\_ £17965
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Asto. Verdight metallic, 2000 miles \_\_ £19905

95N Volvo 650 2.5 10v GLT Est Auto. Red pearlescent reveals. 954 Valvo 850 2.5 20v GLT Eat Asia. Dark Grey metalic, 9300 95N Yolvo \$50 2.5 20v GLT Estate Asto. Dark olive metalic. 8800 miles

LEX SOUTHBANK TELEPHONE:(0171) 252 700 101. Valvo 440 1.0 SE Hutchi

Polar White, 32000 miles ...... 98H Volvo 850 2.5 20v GLT Se Auto. Autorgine pearl metallic. 10100 miles \$5M Volvo 850 2.8 20v (al.E.S Agito. Silver agno metallic, 112 

95H Velvo 850 2.5 10v GLE Esta Asia. Dark Grey metalic, 10200 VOLVO 850 ESTATES, 95 M/N GLE, GLT & SE £14.300 to £19.700 all superb - px Volvo?? PW Care 01494 672727 (672704 fax) 95N Yelvo 850 TS CD Selson Ann. Silver send metallic, 4500 miles

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consider FHC 71, one owner direc 85. Malborough brown/ mag hide trim & "Everilez" root. 76K. £20,000, 01732 882995 ENTLEY Turbo R 1992, mid-night blue, 53, fsh. £53,000 Consider PX 01482 602627 T 30H Mulsanne S Graphite. Parchment Hide, 35T. £40,995. 0181 522 0023/0374 729191.

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SAVE EEE NEW CAR 900 SE V6 convertible October 94, dark green metallic, grey leather, ACC, CC,

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Cassalina Sulky? Goggomobil? David Long sees a collection of the rarest microcars

# Forever owning bubbles

I you want to squeeze more than 40 cars into a single barn, you need a very big barn or some very small cars. Jean Ham-mond has both.

Jean and her husband, Edvin, started collecting bubble cars in the mid-1970s and 20 years on are not entirely sure quite how many they have on their Kent farm. Jean admits to "about 45, depending on how you count them. That's complete cars, but I never really know whether to include the basket cases when I get asked that one."

The names of some of them, such as Messerschmitt, Heinkel, Vespa, are immediately recognisable. Other badges, bearing the logos of AC, Allard and BMW, are equally famil-iar, though they are more often seen on machines at the other end of the performance scale. But most are real rarities: the Opperman Stirling, the Cassalina Sulky, the Frisky, Goggomobil, Bamby, Tourette and Peel were built in tiny numbers and today are remembered only by the likes of the Hammonds and other members of the Register of Unusual Microcars, Some look like real cars scaled down, others make little or no attempt at conventional styling and almost glory in their toy-like bubble designs.

The collection started with a 198cc Irish-built Heinkel, which the Hammonds bought for their oft-tall son, Andrew, then a teenager, in an attempt to lure him away from motorbikes, while the family car was a 7.2-litre Jensen Interceptor. Andrew and his father, a trained engineer, spent 18 months restoring the Heinkel, by which time the family was

The innovative approach of the microcar designers most



Edwin Hammond. Particularly in Germany where, from 1945, new uses had to be found for aircraft and munitions factories and designers needed to box clever to work and survive on such a small scale.

"Messerschmitt produced a car which looked like a fighter aircraft cockpit because that was what they knew best," says Jean. "And although the little Isetta looked eccentric, it was arguably the car that saved BMW."

The couple have acquired their cars from the most unlikely sources. The French Flipper was won in a raffle, appeals to the engineer in one of two baby Fiats was

bought for pennies at a scouts' jumble sale and a pair of sorry-looking Empolini Van-ettes were donated by a pizza delivery company in London. But perhaps the saddest of all is the Kent-built Cursor which was fished out of the Medway after being dropped in by

Others, like the splendid Velorex with its imitation leather body, have at least an air of glamour. Jean's example was smuggled out of Czechoslovakia by a student escaping to the West. It has now been joined by another refugee, a toothpaste-pink Trabant from

the former East Germany.

This was originally a gift to a popular teacher from his grateful pupils, each of whom autographed the bodywork as a memento for his retirement.

hile nothing in the collection is exactly commonplace, the rarest exhibit is an Opperman Stirling, sole survivor of only two to be built. It's twin was shown at the 1958 London Motor Show, where it attracted considerable interest but never made it into production. Jean claims the project was killed off because the big component suppliers would not get in-

volved: "The Stirling was perceived in some quarters as a rival for the forthcoming Mini and many of the big boys were too scared to touch it in case they upset BMC.

Its eventual fate was there-fore little different to that of so many of the early micros. Indeed, of an estimated 600 manufacturers, none has survived in its original form and most are all but forgotten.

Down in Kent, Jean has all the exhibits, the unflagging enthusiasm, even the building plot for her next dream: a museum dedicated to the ingenuity of the microcar. All she Vaughan Freeman on a sporty Ford

# Dagenham dreams up a wild cat to follow the Mustang

The Mustang of the 1960s and the Capri in the 1970s became motoring legends. Their aggreslooks might have promised more performance than they delivered, but driv-ers loved them and the two cars established Ford as a serious player in the four-seat sports car market. Now Ford has unveiled the

car to carry on where the Mustang and Capri left off. Designed in Britain, and based on the Dagenham-built Fiesta, the Lynx could go on sale within three years, even though Ford described it only as a concept when it was shown at this week's Geneva Motor Show.

For Ford, the Lynx is designed to make mundane motoring problems, like losing the keys, or grabbing a grubby door handle just as you are about to shake hands with the company chairman, a thing of the past. The doors ease open once the user has "swiped" the car's smart card down a special slot.

Designed by Ford's team of stylists at its Small and Medium Vehicle Centre based in Britain and Germany, chief designer Chris Clements says: The Lynx is a modern inter-

pretation of a sports car. As the small car share of the overall car market in Europe continues to grow, an increasing number of buyers will be looking for an alternative to the conventional hot-hatch concept. We have built the Lynx to guage the level of public interest in a compact four-seater sports car.".

CLASS CDs

Despite the futuristic looks the Lynx has as much room inside for people and their shopping as the Fiesta Ian McAllister. Ford of Britain chairman, was coy about the car's prospects of making it into production, but left little doubt that was the hope.

He said the Lynx would appeal as much to the sort of customer who would have been first to get hooked up to the Internet, as to over-55s whose children had left home and who wanted a car that was different exciting yet practical.

"The older generation now have the wealth to indulge those fantasies." he said. The market is changing. People want small cars with big car luxury, with refined power, and which do not give out an aggressive, brash image so much as one that is quietly assertive and confident



The Lynx "the modern interpretation of a sports car"

# Coming soon: a game of Scrabble with Reg

There I was saving up for a new P-registered car in August and someone tells me that the Government is getting rid of the letter change system. Is it true?

Yes ... and no. The Departof getting rid of the August registration change for the sake of the industry, and it wants change sooner rather than later.

But why? They get loads of But way: they see sales in August and everybody loves the new letter change.

They love the saics, just and at once. The system started to They love the sales, just not all help people mark their MoT year but was moved to August to help the industry boost low summer sales.

But, since then, August registrations

have gone ballistic, accounting now for a quarter of the annual total. A Yes ... and no. The Department of Transport, Home That means manufacturers idle Office and the motor industry have along all year and then put in a been trying to thrash out some way ers also have to carry masses of stock - up to 500,000 cars - for one month. Experts say the system costs the industry £1 billion.

DR DASHBOARD

So what will come in its place?
Will we get those bizarre foreign-style plates with lots of letters and numbers?

No, because the Home Office probably won't allow it. Police say witnesses remember the registration letter on a number plate if

nothing else in an accident or crime, so they want any new system to be as clear to identify as the present one. The most widely touted idea is for plates to be changed quarterly.

Quarterly? Why do that? We'll end up with a motor industry version of Scrabble with everybody picking up a new letter

Maybe, but the motor industry is very enthusiastic about the idea. Executives say it would coincide with all the traditional calender events in the sales year: January for the year start, April to coincide with spring sales campaigns. August for a summer boost and October for new model launches. Simple as A, B, C ... et. only more regularly.

can decide which letter of the alphabet I want for my new car?

Don't hold your breath Don't note your because the talking is still going on to iron out wrinkles. There is still a chance that other systems will be chosen, perhaps adding letter code. Whatever happens, the Department of Transport won't be rushed into another system that just causes problems somewhere else in

Does that mean I can still have my P-plate motor this August just as I planned?

Yes, keep saving because those brand shiny new P-plated cars will all be lined up on the forecourt on August I as usual.

# COMPANY CAN DEIVER CONTEST

● NEXT WEEK we will announce details of The Times-Leaseplan Company Car Driver of the Year competition. This is the third year of the competition.

the detailed road and track tests that examine every fa of their skills. But it is worth the

Car Driver effort, with one of the best prizes in the country on offer to

the driver who makes it through a regional heat and into the final at Silverstone,

Nissan is providing its new Almera hatchback as the compe-

tition car for each heat and the

final, while the road and skills

schools, staffed by former Class One police drivers. The final will be conducted by the Silverstone and hundreds have taken part in Driving Centre, run by John Watson, the ex-For-

testing will be by DriveTech, one

of Britain's top driver training

mula One driver and grand prix commentator on Sky Television. So companies,

hospitals, surgeries, sports centres, ho-

London sha

anywhere there are company vehicle drivers from cars to fire engines - should seek out the motorists who not only want to hone their skills but to win a top prize and the accolade of Britain's best company driver.

